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PM searches for 'creative' Wye solution

By DANNA HARMAN

After announcing over the weekend that the cabinet would not ratify the Wye agreement until the Palestinians meet certain conditions, the Prime Minister's Office is now searching for a "creative" solution which would allow the process to move forward, a top government official indicated yesterday.

Bombers belonged to Jenin terror cell, Page 3

According to the official, the cabinet will probably resume ratification discussions later this week, and the memorandum will be brought to the Knesset for its approval on Thursday—only a day later than originally planned. If this happens, Israel could still theoretically begin its first withdrawal, scheduled for November 16, on time.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu halted the cabinet debate on ratification Friday—after the Jerusalem suicide bombing—calling on the Palestinian Authority to show seriousness in the fight against terror. However, there already had been talk about delaying ratification because of statements by top Palestinian officials regarding the Palestinian National Council meeting scheduled for December.

Netanyahu maintains that ratification will take place when Israel receives assurances on both the PNC vote and the fight against terror.

The Palestinians say that all necessary assurances on security mat-

ters have already been given, and that the Wye agreement does not call for a vote. Hence the need for "creative solutions," said the official.

Meanwhile, Palestinian intelligence chief Maj.-Gen. Amin Hindi and preventive security chief Col. Mohammed Dahlan met with General Security Service head Ami Ayalon Saturday to discuss cooperation in capturing the masterminds behind the Friday bombing.

The IDF set up roadblocks throughout the West Bank yesterday, forbidding residents from leaving their homes for several hours, and searching Kabatiya for the Islamic Jihad leaders suspected of masterminding the attack. Palestinian Security forces arrested some 20 Islamic Jihad members in the Bethlehem and Jenin areas. In addition, the PA continued to crack down on the opposition.

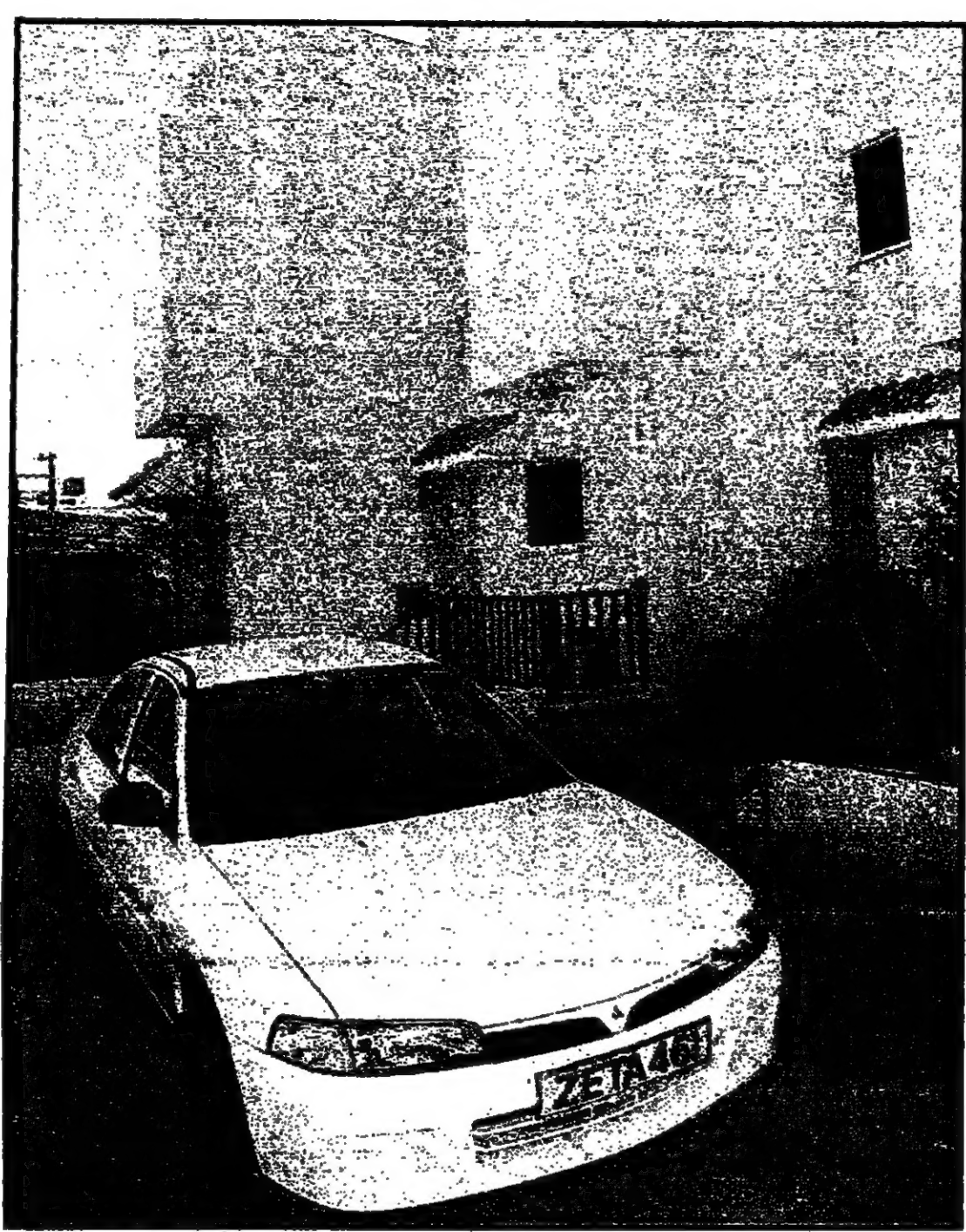
According to Palestinian sources in Gaza, the PA arrested several members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

According to a source in the Prime Minister's Office, some sort of acceptable clarification from the Americans regarding Palestinian commitment to fight terror is in the works. This was agreed upon in a telephone conversation between Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Netanyahu on Friday.

If such a US assurance is received, this will still leave the perhaps more intractable PNC question.

See PM, Page 2

Israel, Cyprus seek end to crisis



A view of the apartment complex in Psematismenos, Cyprus, where two Israelis were arrested for espionage on Saturday. The car they had rented is parked in the yard. (Reuters)

Cyprus: No proof spies worked for Israel

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Even though Cyprus has announced that the two Israelis arrested there on Saturday for allegedly spying on the country were not working for the Israeli government, it is still not clear whether the pair are Mossad agents.

Officials keeping mum, Page 2

A flurry of diplomatic activity is said to be under way between Nicosia and Jerusalem, with both sides saying they want the affair to end quietly. To enable this, the Cypriot Justice Ministry issued a brief statement saying the two men were not working for Israel. It did not mention the word "Mossad."

Cypriot Ambassador Euripides Evriviades told *The Jerusalem Post* "There is a lot of good will to bring an end to this quickly. I am sorry that this hit the press."

Cypriot officials also did not mention the possibility the two Israelis may have been working for Turkey.

"It has not been established in the course of inquiries regarding the case of spying for which two Israelis are in custody that their actions... are connected in any way with the government of Israel," the ministry said in a news release. The brief statement did not give further details, but a source said that "all other possibilities" are being investigated.

Asked by Channel 2 whether the two men in custody worked for Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said: "Every Israeli citizen is important to us. We'll clarify this, and of course we'll bring them home."

Officials in Jerusalem declined to comment, besides confirming that the two men are Israelis and are to be visited by an embassy official in Nicosia.

Suspects Udi Hargov, 37, and Yigal Damary, 49, have been remanded for eight days and were transferred yesterday to Nicosia for further investigation at an unspecified location. Reports from Cyprus said they are being held separately, but had been visited by an attorney appointed for them by the Israeli Embassy in Nicosia. Sources close to the case said the two have not yet given a statement to police, but deny all involvement in espionage.

"One is answering some questions, but the other refuses point blank to talk without his lawyer present," a source told Reuters.

Cyprus is extremely sensitive to foreigners observing its military activities, particularly the exact deployment date of sophisticated S-300 anti-aircraft missiles Cyprus has ordered from Russia, Turkey, which captured a third of the island in a 1974 invasion, has vowed to take action to prevent their deployment, since it claims the missiles will threaten its air space.

Cyprus is very fearful of the military alliance between Turkey and Israel, but is also keen on maintaining good relations with Jerusalem. These relations were boosted last week, when President Ezer Weizman paid an unprecedented visit there.

If in the past intelligence mishaps were resolved quietly, there are some in Cyprus who were apparently interested in the arrest of the Israelis being leaked, possibly to make it more uncomfortable for Israel. Evriviades categorically denied that his government leaked the information.

See ISRAEL, Page 2

7 killed on roads

Six people died yesterday and four were injured—three seriously—in six road accidents. A seventh person died from injuries sustained in an accident last week.

One died and three were seriously injured at the Ram junction when two cars collided head-on. A foreign worker on a bicycle was killed when he was struck by a car near Beit Dagan. Gil Grabovsky, 27, of Ra'anana died after his tow truck was hit by a car when he stopped to help a motorist.

A woman pedestrian was struck and killed near Pardes Hanna. The driver of a car that slammed into a bus died upon impact near Ramle. A motorcyclist was struck and killed by two cars near Lod. An eight-year-old boy died of injuries received last week when an unlicensed 16-year-old hit his bicycle. (JTM)

Clinton consults with top security advisers on Iraq

WASHINGTON (Reuters)—President Bill Clinton was meeting his top national security advisers yesterday, seeking a conclusive solution to a seemingly endless cat-and-mouse game with Iraq over eliminating its weapons of mass destruction.

US officials say they want to end the stand-off by using diplomatic pressure on President Saddam Hussein, although an attack on key military targets also is being considered, perhaps starting with cruise missiles.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Defense Secretary William Cohen, National Security Adviser Sandy Berger, and CIA Director George Tenet were meeting with Clinton at Camp David.

The president was not expected to make any final decision at the meeting on whether to use force and if so, at what level.

Iraq remains defiant, Page 5

Defense Ministry officials yesterday dismissed reports in *Ha'ariv* that the United States had decided to send anti-Scud Patriot missile batteries to Israel in light of an impending attack on Iraq.

The report came amid intense US military preparations to prepare a show of strength to break Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's latest defiant moves against UN weapons inspectors.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's spokesman Avi Benayahu did not totally deny the report, but said no decision had yet been made. "There is no operative conclusion on the matter," Benayahu said.

The air force currently has three fully operational Patriot missile batteries deployed across the country. In addition to this, the air force, which is responsible for defense from incoming surface-to-surface missiles, has this year deployed the Green Pine radar system, which was developed to track ballistic missiles for the Arrow 2 batteries.

Arieh O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

Welcome To The Finest Personal Banking Services In Israel



Landau's legacy dominates Herzliya race

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

If the pollsters and pundits are reading the political map correctly, there is an excellent chance that Herzliya residents will not find out who their new mayor will be even after the returns from tomorrow's election are tallied. The tough, hard-fought campaign is believed to be too close to call, and tomorrow's vote seems likely to lead to a second-round run-off, with no candidate winning a decisive majority in the battle to replace colorful but controversial Mayor Eli Landau, who is stepping down.

The two leading contenders are Haim Peled and Yehuda Urieli, currently neck-and-neck, with support for each hovering around 20 percent, according to the most recent polls. Much of the reason for the two candidate's low numbers is a late-in-the-race surprise—Yael German, a political consultant who has been slowly gaining support and who has managed to win several mock elections in the local high schools. Also fighting for votes are Deputy Mayor Shmuel Levy, Yossi Givati, and Shai Tal.

The diverse character of Herzliya

—which on its western edge houses some of the country's wealthiest people and most profitable high-tech companies, while further east there are pockets of poorer areas—is reflected in the large number and varied nature of its candidates.

The campaign has also taken on an ethnic nature. For example, Ruth Resnick, the high-profile head of the local battered women's shelter, was ejected from Meretz when she joined Levy's independent list, which is running against the party. Levy immediately protested to national Meretz chief Yossi Sarid, saying she wouldn't have been disqualified from party membership if she had joined forces with a "winter and more Ashkenazi candidate."

Two weeks ago, a mini-scandal occurred when a private investigator photographed an Urieli activist slashing the tires of rival candidate Peled.

See HERZLIYA, Page 4

Most schools open during elections

All schools that do not have polling stations will be open during tomorrow's municipal elections, Education and Culture Minister Yitzhak Levy said yesterday.

After receiving numerous questions about which schools would be affected by the elections, Levy received a ruling on the matter from Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein last night.

Education Ministry Director-General Ben-Zion Dell last night told department heads, school principals, and kindergarten teachers to inform students and teachers of the ruling. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman had last week opposed the closure of schools on election day. A Treasury statement said Neeman saw no reason for the move, which would harm hundreds of thousands of pupils and their parents.

Jerusalem Post Staff



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NEWS

in brief

Gaza airport on hold

The Gaza airport will not open until after the Israeli cabinet ratifies the Wye agreement, Brig.-Gen. Fayez Zeidan, head of the Palestinian Civilian Aviation Authority, said yesterday at a press conference in Ramallah. "We still do not know when [the airport will open], because the Israeli side is using the last attack [in Jerusalem on Friday] as a reason to delay the opening of the airport," Zeidan continued, adding that this is not acceptable to the PA. "It is important to implement the agreement without a delay."

Once the Gaza airport is functioning, the PA hopes to construct an airport in the West Bank, Zeidan said, "but the Israeli side refused to discuss this matter before the opening of Gaza airport." Zeidan also said the PA would not permit hijacked planes to land at a Palestinian airport as that would violate the Oslo Accords.

Mohammed Najib

Jibril, Habash vow to block chance in covenant

Accusing Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat of betraying his people, leaders of radical Palestinian groups announced yesterday that they would block any effort to amend the Palestinian National Charter. At a meeting called to discuss the Wye Memorandum and demands that the charter be amended to eliminate language calling for Israel's destruction, Ahmed Jibril, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, said Arafat had "relinquished the Palestinian land and people and betrayed the Palestinian cause." George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said Arafat "no longer represents the Palestine Liberation Organization or the Palestinian National Council."

AP

Aid team leaves for Central America

The Foreign Ministry Department for International Cooperation yesterday sent a team of nine doctors and nurses to the Central American countries stricken by Hurricane Mitch, a ministry spokesman said. A consignment of medical equipment which will aid the doctors and nurses in their work was sent to the stricken area earlier in the week.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Kahane followers give out stickers calling for war

Militants from outlawed extreme right-wing groups handed out stickers which read "War Now" at a memorial service for Rabbi Meir Kahane yesterday. The stickers, plus a book glorifying Baruch Goldstein, were available at Kahane's grave in Jerusalem, where some 100 people gathered there to mark nine years since he was assassinated. Two groups, Kach and Kahane Chai, were outlawed after Goldstein killed 29 Palestinians in 1994.

AP

Land of Israel Front to pick PM candidate

The first large-scale moves to pick a new right-wing prime ministerial candidate are slated to begin in several weeks, according to Geshar MK Michael Kleiner, who heads the Knesset's Land of Israel Front. A membership drive will then be launched for a new right-wing political framework.

Kleiner said "there is no truth to reports that the projected membership drive for a new rightist party or political bloc has been shelved." Front MKs met with National Religious Party leader Yitzhak Levy yesterday in an effort to convince him that the NRP should become the mainstay of the planned new party. Sarah Honig

Barak sets Labor's red lines

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, addressing the Zionist General Council in Jerusalem yesterday, set out the red lines of a policy which he said would enable Israel to reach an agreement with the Palestinians, starting with "a united Jerusalem, under our sovereignty, as Israel's eternal capital." He also said Israel could under no circumstances go back to the 1967 borders; there should be no modern foreign army between Israel and Jordan; and most of the settlers, even if not every settlement, should be located in settlement blocs under Israeli sovereignty.

Liat Collins

Hamas to move office from Amman to Damascus

Hamas is planning to move its political bureau from Amman to Damascus, the *Al-Quds* daily reported yesterday. Hamas's decision follows harassment of its leaders in Jordan by the government due to the movement's opposition to the Wye accord, the newspaper said. The Jordanian authorities recently prevented Hamas leaders from carrying out any media or political activities to oppose the accord, and threatened to expel them from Jordan if they did. Prominent Hamas leaders in Jordan, such as Mohammed Nazzal, Khaled Mashal, Ibrahim Ghosha, and Moussa Abu Marzouk have been placed under intensive surveillance.

Mohammed Najib

ברוך דין לאוסון

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, brother, grandfather and great grandfather

ARON LAWSON

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The funeral will leave today, Monday November 9, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. from the Sanhedria Funeral Parlor for Har Hazeitum. Transportation will be available.

Shiva at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel (Room 924).

Erica Lawson
Sara and David Benjamin
Timmy and Naomi Lawson
and grandchildren

Tefillot: Shahrut 6:45 a.m. Mincha 4:30 p.m.

The World Zionist Organization



The Zionist General Council

We mourn the passing of

AHARON NAHMIA

a member of the Zionist General Council who devoted his life to Israel, the Zionist Movement and the Jewish people.

Avraham Burg
Chairman of the World
Zionist Organization

Dr. Yitzhak Chen
Chairman of the Zionist
General Council

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of

BLANCA OPPENHEIMER

née Freund

Vienna, New York, Chicago, Jerusalem

The funeral took place on Friday, 17 Marheshvan 5759 (November 6, 1998).

The Oppenheimer, Gutman and Blugrind Families

Students threaten hunger strike today as talks with Treasury fail

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Student leaders are threatening to launch a hunger strike opposite the prime minister's residence at noon today, after a series of sessions with Treasury officials and a meeting with President Ezer Weizman yesterday failed to solve the main issues of reducing tuition and providing government loans.

Student and Treasury representatives were still meeting last night, but it appeared progress was unlikely.

"There's no progress, and we're not being treated seriously," National Union of Israeli Students chairman Lior Rothbart said after last night's meeting.

Dozens of students are expected to take part in the hunger strike, Rothbart said. "Too many days

have gone by for them to treat our situation apathetically," he said. "We said from the beginning that we were serious, and we're continuing to prove this."

As the strike entered its third week, students conducted a series of demonstrations around the country to press their demands for lower tuition, including a demonstration by Bezalel Academy students opposite the Prime Minister's Office, a torchlight procession in Tel Aviv, and a demonstration by students that temporarily halted traffic on the Tel Aviv-Haifa highway near Zichron Ya'acov.

In addition, students planned a vigil outside the home of Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani to protest Police Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk's comments against the students following Friday's terror

attack in Jerusalem. Wilk complained that having to deal with "screaming female students" kept the police from spending more time preventing terror attacks.

At the first meeting between the two sides, held in a Jerusalem hotel, little if any progress was reported. The tuition issue remained the key sticking point, with the Treasury adamant that it would not reduce current tuition levels set by the Maltz Commission in 1996.

Student spokesman Shmuel Algrabi said the students' demand for interest-free government loans to cover their living expenses was rejected by the Treasury. "They told us that if we wanted loans we should go to the bank. We told them we know the way to the bank, and we know how much the loans cost there," Algrabi said, adding that it

is extremely difficult for students to obtain bank loans.

Treasury officials agreed to discuss loans students can receive in exchange for tutoring, but that was all, he said.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman stopped by Beit Hanassi to update Weizman on the latest developments in the talks with the students before Weizman met with them.

Weizman told the students he sympathizes with their case, student leaders said.

"I accept the diagnosis. I just don't know what the prescription for the solution is; but I'm with you in your struggle," he said.

Algrabi said student leaders also complained to Weizman about Wilk's remarks.

Student leaders left the meeting doubtful that a solution could be

found to end the strike, although they expressed satisfaction with the president's support.

"The Treasury officials don't understand our plight or the students' wishes. One gets the impression that the Treasury is living in another country," Lior Rothbart said after the meeting.

Shortly after the meeting with the president, news spread that progress had been made in the talks. However, Algrabi accused the Treasury of deliberately spreading this false report, and warned Treasury officials that if such behavior continued, the students would refuse to attend any other meetings with them.

A Treasury spokesman was unavailable for comment.

Batsheva Tsur and Irit contributed to this report.

Somebody in Cyprus wants to make it difficult for Israel

By BAT SHEVA TSUR and LIAT COLLINS

Cyprus and Israel yesterday appeared to be trying to lower the profile, with public figures refusing to comment on the arrest of two Israelis for espionage.

President Ezer Weizman, who spent two days last week reassuring the Cypriots that Israel has no intention of harming their security, refused to comment, as did Ambassador to Cyprus Shmuel Tzur. Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman Uzi Landau warned against too much talk about the affair while the two are still being held. He would not say whether they are Mossad agents, saying only that if they were then the sub-committee on secret services would discuss the matter.

"What should be done right now is to allow the person who should deal with these matters to work and do what has to be done to get them out without sitting on his head all the time," he told Israel Radio.

"What concerns me most is that when there is a juicy affair like this, many of us bover like crows above carrion... There are too many people who talk too much, and it would be better were we more modest and more quiet."

Landau said he can see no reason for Israel investigating Cypriot military maneuvers.

The Cypriot press ran the story only on its inside pages and Cypriot government officials were not available for comment, as offices were closed.

Prodromos Papavassiliou, chairman of the Cyprus-Israel Friendship Association also begged off. "It's not pleasant and I hope and pray it will turn out to be nothing," he said. "But it is my duty to remain neutral and I cannot comment."

He hinted that the media had exaggerated the affair.



Yigal Damary (left), 49, and Udi Hargov, 37, suspected of espionage, are escorted into a Larnaca courthouse on Saturday.



Kostos Demetriades, the lawyer hired by the two Israelis, is the son of the popular mayor of Nicosia, Lellos Demetriades. He has been mayor for 26 years, "almost as long as Teddy Kollek," he said last week during Weizman's state visit.

The Demetriades family has excellent informal ties with Israel and has paid several visits here. Like many members of the elite in Cyprus, family members have received medical care here.

This is not the first time this year

that Israel has been embarrassed by a "security mishap" in Cyprus. In the April, two Israeli planes were caught flying over a planned missile base in the northwest of the island. At the time, Cyprus protested the violation of its air space. The incident led to ongoing fears that Israel is providing intelligence material on the surface-to-air missiles ordered from Russia to the Turks.

During Weizman's visit to Nicosia, which came on the heels of a visit to Ankara, the Cypriots

repeatedly sought assurances on this point. Weizman reportedly turned down a Turkish request that he pay a visit to the Turkish-held section of the island, which Israel - together with other nations of the world, except for Turkey - does not recognize.

During the visit, the Cypriot government spokesman said Nicosia would be willing to forgo the installation of the missiles on its territory if there is disarmament on both sides.

ISRAEL

Continued from Page 1

"The government does not engage in press diplomacy and it has its responsible channels through which it communicates with the Israeli government," he said.

The two Israelis were arrested at dawn Saturday on suspicion they were spying on a military base near the remote coastal village of Ziyi.

According to reports from Cyprus, local villagers alerted

police because of their suspicious behavior.

Investigators said they found sophisticated listening equipment and radio scanners tuned to police frequencies in their hotel room.

The suspects denied that the equipment was theirs, police announced.

A private television station in Cyprus said the scanner found in the suspects' possession was also tuned in to ship frequencies in the area.

Police would not confirm the report.

no sign of Israel acting in the partnership spirit."

Erekat said the Palestinians have so far done all that was required of them in the Wye agreement.

In the future, Erekat added, the Palestinians have every intention of honoring the Wye Memorandum to the letter and in accordance with the time frame. "But he would not, refer directly to what would happen at the PNC convention."

The government differs with Erekat's assertion that the Palestinians have been fulfilling all their commitments, and its press office put out a document yesterday contrasting Palestinian commitments with public statements on such matters as fugitive arrests, confiscation of illegal weapons, and reduction of the police force.

Mohammed Najib contributed to this report.

Ministry of the Interior

Tender No. 29/98

ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSTPONEMENT OF LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION

District Outline Plan for the Jerusalem District

1. Tender documents can be purchased until Monday, November 23, 1998.

2. Queries can be submitted until December 3, 1998.

Other tender details remain unchanged.

The Civil Administration for Judea and Samaria
Officer for Interior Affairs
Supreme Planning Council
Subcommittee for Roads and Railroads

Notice of depositing detailed master plan No. 917/4 for the purpose of upgrading road No. 596, section Um Rehman-Tuna Al Garbiyya located in the area of Yabod:

Block No. 3 part of parcels 10, 12, 23, 24,
and Block no. 4 part of parcels 1, 18, 19, 20, 21,
and Block no. 5 part of parcels 5, 6, 9, 10, 11,
and Block no. 6 part of parcels 2, 3, 4.

Located in the area of Barta'a:

Block No. 20382 part of parcels 7, 9,
and Block no. 20386 part of parcels 2,
and Block no. 20387 part of parcels 2, 3, 5, 6, 7,
and Block no. 20389 part of parcels 1, 5.

According to section 20/24 (1) to the law of planning of towns, villages and structures No. 79 of the 1966, the Subcommittee for Roads and Railroads gives a notice on the depositing detailed master plan No. 917/4 for the purpose of upgrading road No. 596, section Um Rehman-Tuna Al Garbiyya

The plan can be inspected at the office of the central planning office in Bat-El and/or at the local planning committee offices of the Jenin district and at the offices of the planning office of Tul-Karem district in Kdumim.

Anyone may see the plans, at no charge, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays between ten o'clock in the morning and two o'clock in the afternoon.

Anyone who has an interest or anyone who considers himself impacted by the plan, may object to the plan in a written statement.

The statement should be accompanied with relevant documentation such as maps and other documents which enable the identification of the object's property location and ownership and/or which can prove any other affinity or relation to the property.

In unregulated areas, property registration documents which were issued by the Property Tax Office are not applicable unless accompanied by a topographic plan issued by a registered surveyor. The map should include the property's physical size area, location etc.

A statement which does not include the above mentioned documentation will not be considered.

The applicant can also propose changes to the plan if he/she wishes.

The applicant should indicate his/her home address and telephone number.

The statement should be mailed to the Officer for Interior Affairs, post Box 16, Bat El, or to the local planning committee engineer in Jenin district, or the planning office of Tul-Karem district in Kdumim, within two months of the publication of the notice.

Moshe Zuga
Officer of the Supreme Planning Council

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Weinberg: Soldier was murdered for speaking Russian

By LIAT COLLINS and Irit

Yisrael Ba'aliya MK Zvi Weinberg has asked President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to issue a condemnation of the murder of immigrant soldier Jan Shafshovich, during a fight with native Israelis in Ashkelon on Friday night.

Weinberg said the soldier was killed only because he was speaking Russian. He said attacks on Russian-speaking immigrants are a widespread phenomenon. Weinberg also asked Education Minister Yitzhak Levy to make the subject a topic for education in schools.

Shafshovich, 22, of Kiryat Malachi, was buried yesterday. The family immigrated here from Moldova three years ago to escape the antisemitism there, said his twin brother Eduard, who also was injured in the fight.

He, his brother, and several friends had been sitting in an Ashkelon cafe when the people at the adjoining table, a family from Ashkelon, took offense because they were speaking in Russian. Other patrons joined the argument, which turned into a brawl, in which Shafshovich was stabbed to death and three others were lightly to moderately injured.

Police have arrested four people, including a former police officer.

MK Marina Solodkin (Yisrael Ba'aliya) has asked Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk to determine procedures to handle the problem of violence against new immigrants. The president's bureau said that Weizman plans to find a suitable occasion today to comment on the incident.

Batsheva Tsur contributed to this report.

Police: Terrorists belong to Jenin cell

By ELI WOHLGELER

The two terrorists who carried out the bombing attack in Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda market Friday morning were part of an Islamic Jihad cell operating from Jenin, the police said yesterday.

The IDF last night declared Kubaia, near Jenin, a closed military area, as it searched the town for the suspected cell leader, who is thought to have fled there.

The IDF Spokesman said troops had fired toward a fleeing terrorist suspect there, and soldiers found a pistol and fake Israeli identification cards in this abandoned car.

It is still not clear whether the bomb went off accidentally, or whether the terrorists exploded it when they saw that they had been spotted by border policemen.

"You have to remember that the actual plan is the kind of thing that the terrorists take with them to the grave, and we'll never actually know what they were planning," said Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki at a ceremony honoring border policemen Eliad Dohan and Koby Nemer for their life-saving action. Nemer, who was injured in the attack, was unable to attend the ceremony.

What police can confirm is that the red Fiat 127 was legally purchased on Thursday from a resident of A-Tor. The resident was detained for questioning and released afterwards.

Dohan described the events immediately before the attack. "We were very close to the car, and noticed the smoke. We began to push away the people, and yelled for everyone to move away. I turned

to get a water hose and then we heard the terrible blast."

Yitzhaki said it is impossible to determine whether a technical hitch caused the bomb to detonate early.

"I'm very happy that despite all their attempts, the results are far more marginal than what they could have been," said Yitzhaki. "But I have to emphasize that the motivation, the desire to carry out a large attack, exists, and is very strong."

Palestinian security forces, meanwhile, raided the house of Suleiman Dahayneh, one of the terrorists who carried out the attack, his family said.

In unrest yesterday, two border policemen were injured while conducting a routine check on an Arab bus in Jerusalem, police said. The two were attacked by some of the passengers.

One of the policemen fired his weapon in the air when the passengers tried to wrestle away his partner's gun. One of the assailants had his arm broken in the scuffle, and five men were arrested.

While the Islamic Jihad took responsibility for Friday's bombing, the official Palestinian Authority newspaper *Al-Hayat Al-Jadeeda* blamed Israeli intelligence.

Beneath a front-page headline, "Palestinian sources believe Israeli intelligence behind the bombing," sources were quoted saying that "infiltration activity by one of the Israeli [intelligence] services was behind the bombing, just as happened with the grenade attack at the Beersheba bus station a few weeks ago, after which it became known that the perpetrator had been drafted by Israeli intelligence."

The paper said that Palestinian



Border policeman Eliad Dohan (right) receives a citation from Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki for his quick thinking during Friday's terror attack in Mahaneh Yehuda. (Brian Heidler)

security forces "had a number of reports and indications that an outside party was behind the latest action and the chain of actions which recently took place, all of which had a political objective to

embarrass the PA and prevent the implementation of the agreements." David Bar-Ilan, director of communications in the Prime Minister's Office, said that "it is a shame that instead of waging an all-out war

against terrorism, as it has been obligated to do for the past five years, the PA finds it necessary to blame for Israel for the recent terrorist incidents. This brings us back to the outrageous accusation made by

the Palestinian Authority three years ago blaming elements in the IDF for collaborating with Islamic Jihad in the murder of Israeli soldiers." Mohammed Najib and Irit contributed to this report.

Senior Interior Ministry official arrested

Detectives from the police international crimes division yesterday arrested a 40-year-old woman who is a senior Interior Ministry employee in Jerusalem, along with a 52-year-old man. They were arrested on suspicion they provided criminals in the former Soviet Union with classified information. (Irit)

Rainy winter predicted

By DAVID RUDGE

After the better than normal summer, the Meteorological Service is forecasting a wetter than average winter.

The medium-range forecast contradicts those of the UK and European meteorological centers, which are predicting less rainfall than usual for this region.

"Nevertheless, we are adhering to our forecast," said Zvi Alpers, director of the Meteorological Service at Beit Dagan. "We are saying that the amount of precipitation for the three main winter months, December, January, and February, is expected to be above the annual average."

If the forecast proves correct, it will bring welcome relief to Lake Kinneret, where the water mark is

just 60 cm. above the red-line — the lowest level in the past nine years. The water level has only dropped to this mark three times in the past 60 years.

The red-line, 213 m. below sea-level, is the mark below which the level is not allowed to drop lest irreparable damage be caused to the lake's ecosystem and the quality of the water.

The Meteorological Service is forecasting that precipitation will be about 10 percent more than the 348 mm. annual average for the three main rainy months.

Alpers noted that the British and European meteorological centers have only been making medium-range forecasts for this region for the past two years.

The Meteorological Service's winter forecast has been accurate in the past four years.

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NEWS

in brief

Accident victim gives birth in coma

A 38-year-old Taiba woman, whose baby was delivered Saturday morning while she was in a coma after she and her husband were in a car accident, underwent surgery at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus yesterday to relieve pressure in her skull. The woman was still in a coma and attached to a respirator after the operation, as she was when her baby was delivered by cesarean section at Meir Hospital in Kfar Sava. Her new daughter and husband are well.

Judy Siegel

Epileptic girl collapses and dies in schoolyard

Sharhan Agbariya, 10, a third-grader in the Ibn Haldun Elementary School in Umm el-Fahm, collapsed and died in the schoolyard yesterday. According to a spokesman for the Haifa school district, Agbariya, who was epileptic, was watching a game in the schoolyard when she suddenly collapsed. Teachers tried unsuccessfully to give her first aid before she was taken to a nearby clinic, where she was pronounced dead.

The school spokesman said the girl had permission to participate in all physical activity in the school. Agbariya had a similar attack in the school two months ago, the spokesman said.

Aryeh Dean Cohen

2 die in work accidents

Two men died yesterday in accidents at construction sites. In Tel Aviv, Eyal Eitan, 25, of Kfar Sava, died when he was buried under a pile of rubble at the site of a building being constructed by his father, Moshe, a contractor.

Another worker, 22, from Kalansua, also was buried, but a third worker managed to remove the rubble surrounding his head, thereby saving his life. He was eventually freed and taken to Ichilov Hospital.

In Rehovot, a 40-year-old worker fell to his death from a scaffold as he was working on the sixth floor of a building under construction.

Itim

Only 10% of battered women file complaints

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Only 20,000 of the some 200,000 battered women have filed complaints with police, Masha Lubelsky, a senior adviser on domestic violence and the status of women to Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, said yesterday.

Speaking in Jerusalem to the Israel Bonds North American National Women's Delegation, Lubelsky said that there is still a feeling that there's something abnormal about domestic violence in Jewish families, yet every month around 2,000 women all over the country complain to the police.

But many more make a secret of the abuse to which they are subjected.

While it is difficult to pinpoint any area of the country as having more incidents of domestic violence than another, she said, the least number of complaints are registered in Jerusalem.

This is not because there was less domestic violence there, but because haredi and Arab women are more reluctant to go to the police.

A government committee which has been studying the problem will next week make recommendations to the Knesset on how to act at community level to protect women and children from physical abuse, she said.

Lubelsky, emphasizing that every woman should have faith that something will be done if she goes to city hall with her problem.

"Violence in the family is a matter that men will discuss only when they think it will promote them politically," declared Likud MK Naomi Blumenthal.

Although there has been some progress in advancing the status of women, she acknowledged that progress is to some extent illusory.

"We are promoted at work — but it comes to a certain level and then we are stopped."

Blumenthal implied that gains made by women here and abroad may be only temporary due to the strengthening of conservative and fundamentalist movements around the world.

With regard to tomorrow's municipal elections, Blumenthal noted that there appears to be a peculiar attitude toward women candidates.

The issues, she pointed out, are largely in the realm of women's interests and activities.

If one talks about education, the majority of teachers are women; and it is mothers who primarily help children with their homework.

If it's consumerism, women are out shopping more often than men, yet women are not consulted when city councils approve the construction of new malls.

The considerations that count, she lamented, are how much the city will earn per square meter of construction and how friendly the contractor is with the mayor.

Shamgar Commission proposes new guidelines for A-G appointment

By LIAT COLLINS

Nearly two years after the Bar-On Affair, the Shamgar Commission yesterday presented Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi with its report establishing clear guidelines on the selection and function of the attorney-general, as well as ways of dismissing the attorney-general mid-term. The recommendations are to be passed on to the cabinet for consideration.

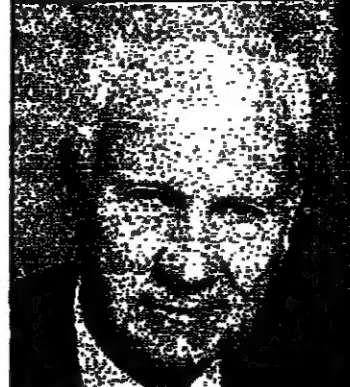
One of the report's main conclusions is that the candidates for the attorney-general position should be proposed to the government by a public panel, which would first examine their suitability. The attorney-general currently is chosen by the cabinet, at the recommendation of the justice minister.

According to the report, candidates will have to meet at least the same criteria of eligibility required of a supreme court judge. They cannot be political figures and need to have spent a three-year cooling off period between party activity.

The attorney-general should serve one six-year term, the committee recommended.

Meir Shamgar, former head of the Supreme Court, said the committee he led had created norms for a situation in which today there are no set guidelines.

"We have raised the level regarding the appointment to one in which the appointment of the attorney-general is regulated and ensures those principles which we saw as being an essential part of



Meir Shamgar (Joel Fishman)

his functions: his independence, his status, his efforts in protecting the rule of law," Shamgar said.

The five-member public panel to

screen the candidates would be chaired by a retired judge appointed by the head of the supreme court. The other members would be: either a former justice minister or a former attorney-general chosen by the government; a representative chosen by the Knesset Law Committee; a representative chosen by the Bar Association's board; and a representative of academe chosen by the deans of university and college law faculties.

The Shamgar Commission also recommended keeping the attorney-general's jurisdiction intact and not dispersing it among other bodies such as the state attorney, as had been suggested. It also proposed maintaining the situation in which the attorney-general would be "the chief authorized inter-

preter of the law for all the authorities" including the cabinet and Knesset. Reflecting this, the name of the position in Hebrew will change from the current "Legal Adviser to the Government" to "Chief Legal Adviser." The attorney-general's advice, while a strong recommendation, still will not be absolutely binding on the government.

The government, in consultation with the public body, should have the right to dismiss the attorney-general mid-term in cases in which chronic differences of opinion make working together impossible; or if the attorney-general behaves in an unbecoming way; is the subject of a criminal investigation; is indicted; or can no longer perform properly.

MKs reject plan to limit rights for returning citizens

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday rejected the Customs and VAT Authority's plan to limit returning Israelis' customs rights only to those who had been abroad 10 years or more.

Customs officials had charged that 80 percent of returning Israelis who benefit from the rights are returning emissaries.

Committee members rejected this argument and told the customs representatives that separate provisions in the law, which grants such rights to returning Israelis who have been abroad two years or more, should be made to deal with emissaries.

The plan drew sharp criticism from Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein, who criticized the Treasury for making a unilateral decision without consulting ministry officials responsible for encouraging citizens to come back to Israel.

Edelstein and Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal said last week that the proposed law setting the requirement at 10 years "sent a message to Israelis abroad that said: 'Don't come home, we don't want you.'"

HERZLIYA

Continued from Page 1

The activist was arrested, and Urieli disavowed him, saying that while he "hung around" his campaign headquarters, he did not consider him an activist. But Peled, who had hired the investigator, claimed the man was a close associate of Urieli's.

While officially independent, the leading candidates fall into clear political niches. Urieli enjoys the support of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the local

branches of the National Religious Party and Yisrael Ba'Aliya. Peled is running with the support of the Labor Party and has brought in former prime minister Shimon Peres, an old friend, to campaign for him.

The overriding issue that the candidates have had to address is the legacy of the tremendous expansion and development of Herzliya under Landau's administration, which has brought prestige and revenue to the city, but which many residents fear has mushroomed out of control due to his close ties with construction companies. The most controversial aspect of the Landau legacy is the Marina luxury condominium building project and other seaside construction, which many environmental groups and residents fear endangers the city's popular beaches, and have tried to halt in court.

What the beach lovers have not been able to accomplish on the legal front, they are attempting to do on the political front. At a recent conference organized by the environmental lobby, all of the mayoral candidates signed a pledge to preserve the beaches for public use.

Rosanna Milstein, a former South African who lives in the Nof Yam neighborhood, is an enthusiastic supporter of German. "I think she is getting a lot of support because people are suspicious about candidates like Peled and Urieli possibly entering into all kinds of agreements with construction companies who were involved with Eli Landau — particularly Urieli, who is himself a contractor. I think that she's bringing a kind of innocence and grass-roots appeal to the race."



Local Elections

Herzliya residents are also deeply concerned about the state of education in their town, which they believe falls short of the achievements in neighboring communities, such as Ramat Hasharon and Ra'anana. Frustrations with Landau's treatment of education led to a prolonged struggle and strikes, and one list is running for council on a platform strictly focused on education. All of the candidates are appealing to the worried parents, with Peled, for example, pledging to allot NIS 30 million to education.

Milstein, the mother of three, says that she senses a greater political awareness among city residents than in previous years. "Particularly, there is a feeling among the younger generation of Herzliya residents, such as the parents of my children's classmates, that with Landau stepping down, there is a unique opportunity to shape the future of the city — an opportunity that doesn't come around very often."

Kfar Shmaryahu

There is a common expression in Hebrew called the "woes of the rich." That would be an accurate description of what the average Israeli would think of the campaign issues in the more affluent

hamlets of the country, like Kfar Shmaryahu. But local politics can be tough — even in small towns where incomes are high and the living is relatively easy.

For the first time in many years, a pitched battle is on for the leadership of the city council in Kfar Shmaryahu, following the announcement of Shraga Milstein, who has headed the council for 15 years, that he is stepping down.

Contending among the town's 1,500 voters with sentimental names like "Together for the Sake of the Village" and "Loyal to Kfar Shmaryahu" are three candidates: attorney Ella Gera, former council member Shmuel Ben-Tovim, and Yossi Milstein, the son of the current council head.

It's not always easy to see that an election is taking place: The town takes its appearance seriously, and to avoid having their haven plastered with unsightly campaign posters, has strictly limited the number of places in which candidates are permitted to post campaign signs.

The main issue is growth. It is a foregone conclusion that the town is going to have to expand if it wants to maintain its independent status, and not be forced by the Interior Ministry to merge with neighboring Herzliya. For this, it will have to increase population through construction. What type of construction this should be is a hot topic of debate.

Currently, the homes in the town are spacious places on a minimum of one dunam (quarter acre) of land. Some landowners would like to see that reduced so they could maximize profits. Others worry that denser building would ruin the pastoral atmosphere of the town.

The effect of major transportation is also a concern. Already, Kfar Shmaryahu's tranquility is shattered daily during rush hour, after the construction last year of a main thoroughfare that links its eastern neighbors of Ra'anana and Kfar Sava to the Coastal Road via the town. More commuters will be on the way with the planned extension of the Ayalon Freeway, and expansion of the railroad that cuts through the town.

Merle and Gert Guttmann, who immigrated from Zimbabwe, but have lived in Kfar Shmaryahu for many years, both describe the race as "a clash of personalities rather than politics. Most of our issues are motherhood-and-apple-pie questions — the candidates agree

on most of them — so people are voting for the person they trust the most," said Gert, an architect.

"Nearly everyone agrees that we need to expand so that we won't be taken over by Herzliya, that we want the extension of the Ayalon to be as far away from our homes as possible, and for an effort to try to make this new road smaller and emptier than it currently is and make it easier to get in and out of the town. But most people don't have the faintest idea regarding the details of the plan to expand the eastern side of the town."

Merle, the current president of the English Speaking Residents Association, said that education is also an issue. "Although it is an aging town with many of the residents, like us, already grandparents, I know there are many young families who believe that in a community such as this, the school facilities should be better. After all, this is not a place with a lot of social problems."

She notes that this election, "from where I sit, the atmosphere in town is truly unique. This is the first time in many, many years that we have had so many lists and so many candidates. In previous years, we have had just two or even one list running for mayor and for the council. In terms of political activity, it's far more alive and competitive than I ever remember it."

Savyon

A competitive race is also being waged in another upper-class enclave — Savyon, where American-born council head Marcia Caspi is fighting to hold onto her post. While Caspi's two challengers have not questioned the Illinois native's achievements in running the city's finances efficiently and maintaining the face of Savyon, both of them, Romemia Segal and Shimon Agba, have criticized her for failing to pay as much attention to the town's human face as to its flowers and trees.

Segal maintains that Savyon needs to provide more than just beautiful homes, that an aging population will require greater social services and perhaps even the construction of a retirement home in the area.

And in Savyon, just as in Kfar Shmaryahu, there are ongoing debates about the subdividing land and whether the town's minimum of 1.25 dunam per residence is too much.

State of Israel
Ministry of the Interior

National Supervisor of Elections

Announcement to Voters and Voting Station Personnel Regarding Additional Means of Identification for the Local Authority Elections

A. Due to the sanctions employed during the past few weeks by Interior Ministry personnel, the Government has decided on emergency regulations which will allow voters in the coming Local Authority Elections to identify themselves to the voting stations committees by means of ONE of the following documents (in addition to an identity card):

1. Valid Israeli passport
2. Valid Israeli driving license
3. Soldiers in regular service and the permanent army can use their IDF cards for identity purposes (at both IDF and civilian voting stations)
4. Policemen and prison officers may use their police ID cards or prison personnel ID cards.

All the above means of identification are acceptable and each one can serve for purposes of identification.

- B. Each of the identifying documents must bear the owner's photo and include the page on which the name and identity number appear.
 - C. A foreign passport or driving license may not be used for identification or voting purposes, but only an ISRAELI passport or driving license.
 - D. In addition to these supplementary means of identification, the Minister of the Interior has published regulations abolishing the need to present the appendix of an identity card, i.e., a voter will be allowed to cast his ballot even if the identity card he shows the voting station committee lacks the appendix.
 - E. The regulations abolish the need for having a stamp, attesting that a voter has cast his ballot, affixed to the identifying document, and thus in the coming elections, the voting station committee will not stamp "voted" on the identity card or other identifying document.
- This makes it doubly important for the voting station committee to delete the voter's name from the list of voters after he has cast his ballot, and this deletion will serve as sole proof that the voter has already used his right to vote.
- F. These regulations will be in effect in the elections for the heads of local authorities, as well as in the second rounds of these elections, where such take place.

UP TO AND INCLUDING ELECTION DAY, POPULATION REGISTRY OFFICES WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL THE EVENING SOLELY FOR PEOPLE REQUIRING IDENTITY CARDS.
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Ehud Shilat, Advocate
National Supervisor of Elections

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Iraq remains defiant despite military threats

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Iraq called on Arab states for their support yesterday and showed no sign of backing down in its refusal to cooperate with UN weapons inspectors, despite growing threats of military strikes.

"The Arabs should express clearly their rejection of aggressive American threats against Iraq," the ruling Baath party's *al-Thawra* newspaper said.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz told three visiting British and Irish parliamentarians

that Baghdad would stick to its decision until the UN Security Council reviewed trade sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990-91 occupation of Kuwait.

"Iraq adheres to its stand until the Security Council meets its reciprocal obligations towards it," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Aziz as saying.

The official *al-Qadisiya* daily said in a front-page editorial: "Iraq is ready to confront all possibilities and options with high morale."

Trade Minister Mohammed

Mehdi Saleh told reporters at a Baghdad trade fair Iraq did not fear military strikes, as US President Bill Clinton prepared to meet with top advisers to discuss further steps against Iraq.

"The United States will lose as it always loses," Saleh said.

There has been no sign Iraq would back down in its refusal to cooperate with the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) charged with monitoring and dismantling the country's weapons of mass destruction.

Baghdad has demanded the UN Security Council review sanctions imposed on Iraq after its 1990-91 occupation of neighboring Kuwait and dismiss UNSCOM chairman Richard Butler.

Fifteen arms monitors left Iraq for Bahrain on Saturday for what a UN official said were administrative and logistical reasons, and a total of a further 15 are due to leave today and Wednesday.

Caroline Cross, special assistant to the director of the Baghdad Monitoring and Verification

Center, said just over 100 monitors would remain in Iraq after Wednesday following a decision by Butler to reduce UNSCOM's Baghdad-based staff by 20 percent.

Prakash Shah, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's envoy in Iraq, said he had met Aziz to discuss the stand-off over the weapons monitors.

"We have had a meeting yesterday [Saturday] with Mr. Tariq Aziz and you know this is part of regular round of discussions," he said.

WORLD

in brief

Yeltsin back from vacation earlier than expected

MOSCOW (AP) - President Boris Yeltsin unexpectedly returned to Moscow late yesterday, nearly a week before he was scheduled to end his medically mandated vacation in the southern resort town of Sochi, his press service said. Kremlin spokeswoman Vera Barysheva declined to comment on Yeltsin's condition, or why the president had come back earlier than expected. He was recuperating from exhaustion.

Russia's Supreme Court ruled last week that Yeltsin cannot seek a third term, ensuring that he is nearing the end of his political career. His term expires in 2000. In recent weeks, Yeltsin has ceded much of his day-to-day authority to Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

Berezovsky: Ban antisemitic communists

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian tycoon and politician Boris Berezovsky yesterday called for the Communist Party to be banned, because of antisemitism in its ranks.

Interfax news agency quoted the executive secretary of the commonwealth of former Soviet states as saying the Communists had "put themselves beyond the laws of the civilized world, beyond the Russian laws."

During Saturday's celebrations of the 81st anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, Communist leaders showed support for Albert Makashov, a Communist parliamentary deputy who ignited controversy last month by saying Jews were to blame for Russia's economic plight and should be jailed.

'Best thinker' Moynihan set to retire

Daniel Patrick Moynihan - a visionary scholar of welfare and poverty who was dubbed "the nation's best thinker among politicians since Lincoln and its best politician among thinkers since Jefferson" - announced at week's end that he will retire from the US Senate in 2000.

The cerebral New York Democrat, now 71, was raised in Hell's Kitchen in Manhattan. He went on to an extraordinary career as a Harvard professor, author, a domestic policy adviser to four US presidents, and a diplomat before he was elected to the Senate in 1976.

Marilyn Henry

Blair backs gay admission by UK minister

LONDON (Reuters) - Cabinet colleagues closed ranks yesterday behind British Agriculture Minister Nick Brown after he was forced to admit he was gay when a former lover tried to sell his story to a tabloid newspaper. Prime Minister Tony Blair, embroiled for the third time in a month in a public row over the sex lives of his ministers, was quick to defend Brown and said there was no question of his being asked to resign. Brown's admission on Saturday night came only days after Welsh Secretary Ron Davies resigned after becoming the victim of an armed robbery when he befriended a stranger late one night in a London park known as a homosexual meeting place. Davies denied newspaper allegations that he was involved in a gay sex encounter.

Trade Secretary Peter Mandelson was "outed" when a political commentator described him as homosexual on a television discussion program, prompting the BBC to ban all broadcast references to his sexuality.

New Caledonia vote approves autonomy

PARIS (Reuters) - New Caledonians have voted by a wide margin in a referendum to put their nickel-rich Pacific island on the road to autonomy from France, a senior French official announced said yesterday.

"After 10 years of civil peace, institutional stability, and development, New Caledonia is turning resolutely towards its future," Jean-Jack Queyranne, France's acting interior minister, said in a statement announcing that the referendum question had been approved.

Death sentences for 1975 Bangladesh coup

By AMIS AHMED

DHAKA (Reuters) - A Bangladesh court yesterday sentenced 15 former army officers to death by firing squad for killing the country's founding father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in a 1975 coup, court officials said.

Only five of the accused were in court. The others, still at large, were tried in absentia.

Judge Kazi Golam Rasul of the Dhaka District and Session Judges' Court announced the long-awaited verdict in a trial that started in July 1997. Four of the accused were acquitted.

"They deserve no mercy," the judge said while reading out his 171-page judgment to a packed court.

"Justice has prevailed at long last," said Zillur Rahman, general secretary of Awami League, which was founded by Mujib and now led by his daughter, Sheikh Hasina.

It was the first time in the nation's history that leaders of a military coup were tried in a civilian court. "They have not only shot and killed the then president Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family, but have shown arrogance after the killings. They should be executed publicly," Rasul said.

Khan Saifur Rahman, the lawyer of Faruq Rahman, one of those sentenced, told reporters he would appeal the verdict.

"A common court cannot order public execution by a firing squad," he said. Rahman declined to comment. But another convict, Mohiuddin Ahmed, said: "It's all up to the will of Allah. I am innocent and I am going to appeal." Rasul said four other accused, including former information minister Taheruddin Thakur, had been acquitted.

Gag lifted, Polish priest enters row on Auschwitz

GDANSK, Poland (Reuters) - A Polish priest muzzled for antisemitic remarks marked the end of his one-year ban yesterday by attacking Jewish groups for objecting to the presence of Christian crosses at the former Nazi death camp Auschwitz.

Jewish groups have called for the removal of more than 200 crosses from a field just outside Auschwitz.

"We are witnessing a frenzied battle over the place of the cross and freedom to express religious feelings in our homeland," Father Henryk Jankowski told several hundred worshippers at mass in the Baltic port of Gdansk.

Jankowski condemned calls by some Jewish leaders to place Auschwitz and surrounding areas under international supervision, likening them to Nazi Germany's demand for an extraterritorial road across Poland in the buildup to World War II.

"We have heard that Auschwitz should be turned into an extraterritorial zone, which is very similar to the 1939 Nazi demands for us to yield control of the land of our fathers to foreign hands," he said.

Gdansk Archbishop Tadeusz Goclowski forbade Jankowski to preach from the pulpit for one year after he said in a sermon that "there is no place for people of Jewish and Russian descent in the Polish government."

Once the confessor and adviser to Solidarity trade union leader Lech Walesa, Jankowski gave refuge to underground Solidarity activists at his church during the 1980s after the movement had been banned by the then-ruling communist regime.



The gray panther has landed
Space shuttle 'Discovery' astronaut John Glenn waves yesterday as he walks with crewmates Scott Parazynski (center) and Pedro Duque following a press conference at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Schroeder backs early retirement plan

By MARK JOHN

BONN (Reuters) - Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder yesterday launched his promised fight against unemployment in Germany by backing a trade union scheme to cut the retirement age by five years to 60. Ahead of Schroeder's address tomorrow to parliament on his government aims, the Finance Ministry also confirmed leaks on a

more generous than expected tax reform, that would initially be financed through a larger budget deficit.

New Christian Democrat chief Wolfgang Schauble, who took over from a tearful former chancellor Helmut Kohl at an emotional party congress on Saturday, attacked Schroeder for having no budgetary sense and using "easy money" policies.

Interviewed by the mass circulation *Bild am Sonntag* newspaper, Schroeder said a general retirement age of 60, five years earlier than is now the case, would create new jobs.

Germany's trade unions have long been calling for early retirement provisions. Employer groups, however, resist the plan, arguing a lower retirement age must be followed by a cut in state pensions.



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

NOTICE ON ELECTION FREEDOM, CONFIDENTIALITY AND INTEGRITY

In accordance with clause 16 of the Election Law (election propaganda methods) 1959, we hereby inform the voting public that at elections to local councils which will take place on November 10, 1998 they are entitled to vote freely in accordance with their conscience for one of the lists of candidates approved for the authority's council and for one of the candidates approved to head the authority. Voting in the elections is confidential. The Ministry of the Interior, the polling officer and the election committee in each local authority have taken suitable steps to ensure this confidentiality.

Among the steps taken are:

Provision of completely opaque voting envelopes (white for the local council and yellow for the head of the authority), into which the voter should put his/her voting slip. The voter is entitled to seal the envelope if he/she wishes;

At each polling station there will be a screen concealing the voter.

Only the voter is permitted to place the voting slip in the envelope and only he/she is permitted to place the voting envelope containing the voting slip into the polling box, in which the envelope will be mixed with those of other voters in the same polling area.

Only a voter who is physically prevented from voting alone because of a handicap may bring someone to accompany and help him/her to do so. Details of the escort will be registered in the protocol by the Election Committee, and any person is forbidden to accompany more than two voters. A director or staff member of a home for the elderly or other institution is not permitted to accompany a resident of that home or institution.

The law stipulates severe penalties for corruption in connection with the elections, interference with the election proceedings and illegal voting, including giving or offering bribes in order to influence voting; accepting or agreeing to accept bribes in connection with their vote; promising a voter work or preventing him from receiving work or threatening dismissal in order to persuade the voter to vote for a specific candidate or to prevent the voter from voting in a specific way; interfering with proper voting procedures; interfering with a person voting or preventing him from voting; presenting another person's identity card to the election committee instead of his/her own identification and voting more than once.

The law also imposes severe penalties on anyone informing the Population Registrar at the Ministry of the Interior that he has transferred his residence to a locality where he is not resident, while being aware that the information is incorrect, and in the wake of the false address change votes in a locality where he is not resident.

I am confident that the legal regulations and the efforts made by the Ministry of the Interior to ensure that they are fulfilled will enable citizen to vote solely according to his/her understanding and conscience.

I hereby call on all those entitled to vote to use this right and vote without fear as a free citizen.

Eliyahu Sulassa
Minister of the Interior and Religious Affairs

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Saved amid broken glass and broken lives

Kristallnacht was a clarion wake-up call for a German Jewish 'Rockefeller' who had thought his position would protect him.

David Froehlich tells his family's story on the 60th anniversary of that Nazi rampage

Though Kristallnacht took place six decades ago — on November 9-10, 1938 — my memory of that time is so clear it could have happened yesterday. Amid the mayhem and destruction, our family experienced deliverance, of a sort.

The Nazis had been looking for an excuse to stage a pogrom. They found it on November 7, when a Jewish youth called Hershel Grynszpan attempted to assassinate Ernst vom Rath, the third secretary at the German Embassy in Paris.

It happened after the young Pole learned of the deaths a few weeks earlier of members of his family, when Hitler forced the deportation to Poland of all Jews who were Polish nationals.

The Poles, being no less antisemitic than the Nazis, didn't want these Jews; so when the trains carrying the Jews reached the border, they were met by Polish police armed with machine-guns. While many Jews managed to escape, many others were killed.

Beginning with the eve of November 9, for the next 24 hours Jews in Germany and Austria had no rights, no protection. By order of the propaganda minister, Dr. Josef Goebbels, the Nazis went on a rampage against the Jewish community.

Jewish offices, shops and homes were looted or demolished. Synagogues were either burned to the ground or destroyed in other ways. Many men were brutally beaten, and most males aged 14 and over were arrested and shipped to concentration camps. According to historical accounts, some 40 Jews lost their lives.

MY parents, my two younger sisters and I lived in an apartment over a shoe store in the center of our small city of Bad-

Mergentheim, a picturesque health resort, on the Württemberg-Baden-Bavarian border. I was a boy of 10.

I attended our local Jewish parochial school, since Jewish children could no longer attend public school. My father was sick in bed with diphtheria, and since our only Jewish doctor was already incarcerated in Dachau, his physician was a Gentile, Dr. Stuetzle.

Our family was very well off: in fact, until 1937, we had owned the largest meat-packing house in Germany. When Hitler came to power in 1933, my father had been negotiating with the Weimar government in Berlin over obtaining refrigeration cars on the German railroad.

The rise of the Nazis soon put paid to those negotiations, though the Froehlich cartel, which also sold livestock, was allowed to go on operating for two years after the infamous Nuremberg laws. The Nazis didn't want to lose the one million Reichsmark in income tax — an extraordinary amount of money for those times.

In 1937, the business was forcibly sold to a Gentile and loyal party member. He had been a common laborer in my father's slaughterhouse.

IN our little town, the Nazi hoodlums first filled themselves with liquor until they were quite drunk. Then they went systematically from store to store, breaking in and destroying everything they could find.

They went from Jewish home to Jewish home and beat up many of the men. Our baker was beaten senseless, and left for dead.

The worst beating was inflicted on our rabbi, Herr Doktor Rabbener Moses Kahn, a revered, scholarly man in his early



sixties.

Late at night the Nazi gang forced themselves into his third-floor apartment and dragged the rabbi down three flights of stairs by his feet, his head bouncing on every step. Outside, they beat him mercilessly until he lost consciousness and left him in an alley.

After coming to, he managed to crawl upstairs to his terrified wife. (Ironically, his son, who escaped to Switzerland just after the rise of the Nazis but then foolishly returned in 1938, ended up

in Dachau and never emerged; his parents were able to go Palestine, where they died of old age after the establishment of the state. Today Bad-Mergentheim, one of Germany's leading health resorts, has a street named for the rabbi.)

Of the 60 Jewish families in town all but ours were "visited" on that horrendous night of November 9. We were highly respected, considered by dint of our wealth and position to be "above and beyond ordinary Jews." So they left us alone.

In fact, we knew nothing of the events of that night until the next morning.

Being an inquisitive young lad and looking out of our living-room window around 7:30 a.m., I noticed an unusual amount of activity on the street below — Hitler Youth running hither and yon, and policemen taking Jewish men to the police station at City Hall.

In our small Jewish community everyone knew everyone else, and I became alarmed and told my parents what I had seen. Having lived with taunts, physical abuse and beatings by uniformed Hitler youth since 1935, we Jewish kids felt what was going on around us more keenly than our elders did. We lived in daily fear.

Just then, one of our Jewish neighbors, Frau Stern, came to our flat crying hysterically. She lived a few short blocks from our home in the Judengasse, the narrow street where the Jewish Community Center was located. (The complex included the Jewish school, our synagogue, a courtyard and a big house with several apartments which served both as a Jewish Center and as home to several Jewish families.)

Through her sobbing, Frau Stern explained how, during the night, the Nazi hoodlums had gone on the rampage. Right then, she told us, a bunch of thugs were going berserk at the synagogue and the Gemeindehaus (community center), egged on by a large mob of yelling Gentiles. "They want to burn down the entire complex — especially the synagogue."

MY father, from his sickbed, became very concerned for the safety of his widowed mother and his youngest sister, who lived across the street from the Jewish Center, and begged my mother to go and check on them. Would Frau Stern stay and babysit for my two younger sisters and me?

While my mother was looking in on Oma Bertha and Aunt Geta, I was still looking out the living-room window and noticed a policeman making straight for our door. I sensed why.

Becoming hysterical myself now, I ran into our kitchen, knelt and, through sobs, prayed, "Hashem, hashem, el hanun verahum..."

Then I heard the policeman's steel-cleated boots on our stone floor. He entered with the customary *Heil Hitler!* and, assuming the woman he saw to be my mother, asked for my father. Told that papa was sick in bed, the officer demanded to be taken to him.

There followed what seemed like a long, eerie silence, during which I stayed on my knees, sobbing.

The next thing I remember was being tapped gently on the shoulder. Papa had not been taken into custody, Frau Stern told me.

BUT our good fortune that day served as a belated wake-up call for my father. Until then, he had stubbornly refused to even consider emigrating, saying, as many German Jews then did, "I'm a German first, and a Jew second. My family has been here since the days of Napoleon, and we are a respected family. They will not harm us."

The preferential treatment accorded our family on account of its wealth had clouded his thinking. But after Kristallnacht, his illusions vanished. We were treated like the Rockefellers before the pogrom — but afterwards, the name Froehlich meant little. We were, first and last, *Juden* — and we would be treated as such.

A year after, late in 1939, my parents and two sisters managed

religious books lay on the floor, torn to shreds.

The Holy Ark had had its doors ripped off. Blood had been spilled over the mutilated Torah scrolls, and the raw flesh of a butchered pig was strewn everywhere.

Though still standing, the place was a desecrated hulk. We stood there in shock. To this day, I have never seen such utter, wanton destruction.

We cleaned up the place as best we could, after which the municipality closed and sealed the synagogue.

Next we had to clean up our schoolrooms. There were two, and each had been totally destroyed. Science apparatus, beakers, specimens and other equipment were broken. Textbooks and library books were ripped up on the floor.

We had had an organ; it was hacked up as if for firewood. Ink and chemicals were splattered all over the walls. The smell was unbearable.

And yet what was done to us in Bad-Mergentheim was mild compared to the atrocities and massive destruction perpetrated on Jewish communities in the large urban centers, in places like Berlin, Munich and Nuremberg.

All but one of the men from our town who had been sent to Dachau that day were released within a month; most were eventually able to leave Germany and survived the war.

IN 1983, I revisited Bad-Mergentheim as part of an invited group of former Jewish citizens and learned from the son of Dr. Stuetzle, my father's physician, just what had happened when that young German policeman, sent to arrest my father, had returned empty-handed to face the angry Gauleiter at City Hall.

The elder Stuetzle, it transpired, had been a member of the Nazi Party — but only for show. He was actually a good and decent man who did all he could to help Jews. Papa, it turned out, was the only Jew in our town not arrested that day.

The furious Gauleiter had called Stuetzle up to verify the policeman's report of my father's illness; the doctor insisted that his patient was not to be moved. Sick

Ravaged synagogues shall live again

After 120 years every man gets a headstone, but there is no means for memorializing a synagogue. Let us provide the forgotten synagogues with an eternal memorial... in Jerusalem. Their pictures, drawings (even blueprints), including some notes on their history, augmented by computer and video data representation, will depict what the synagogues looked like.

The Synagogue Memorial Center was created in 1987 to provide just such a memorial to the 1,406 synagogues in Germany and Austria burnt or otherwise destroyed by the Nazis during Kristallnacht. Dr. Josef Burg and Ronald Lauder are co-presidents of the official, nonprofit organization.

Each synagogue, says the center's chairman, Dr. Meier Schwartz, will have its own page, even if there is no picture and information is scant.

The project will also include the 220 synagogues that remained untouched during Kristallnacht, as most of them had been sold shortly before because there were no longer any Jews to worship in them, about 50 percent of German

Jewry, having fled the Nazi regime. There were 2,800 synagogues in Germany at the beginning of the century, Schwartz notes.

The first of the planned eight to 10 volumes — 860 pages on the synagogues of Nordrhein-Westfalen — is ready and should be published in German at the end of the year, says Schwartz, adding that shorter versions in English and Hebrew are planned.

Contrary to popular belief as expressed in the historical accounts of Kristallnacht, not tens but hundreds of Jews were murdered during that night, the center claims, in addition to the so-called "freedmen" or *Freihold* (suicide). A similar number of Jews were killed in Dachau, Buchenwald and Oranienburg.

"This is new information from archives that includes cemetery and registry office (*Standesamt*) data. Most of these victim-martyrs are never considered or mentioned, as their deaths occurred before the Holocaust."

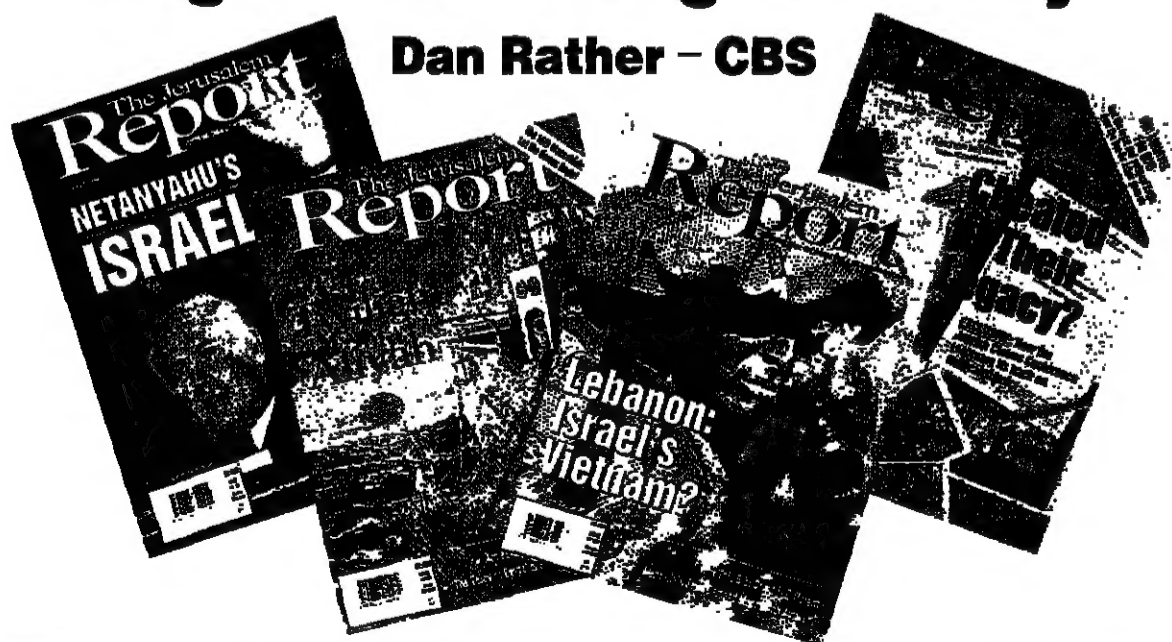
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How Nureyev took the longest leap

By MARCUS WARREN

KGB files have revealed for the first time details of the Soviet investigation into one of the Cold War's most celebrated defectors, the late Rudolf Nureyev's dash for freedom at a Paris airport in 1961.

Nureyev, one of the century's greatest ballet dancers, called his escape from his minders "the longest, most breathtaking leap of my whole career."

For those minding him it was a disaster, costing many their jobs. The files were declassified only this year when Nureyev was officially "rehabilitated" and his conviction for treason quashed. They are unlikely ever to be released to a general public.

Interrogations of witnesses describe Nureyev's reaction to the news that he was to be separated from the rest of the Kirov ballet company, who were travelling on to London, and sent back to Moscow.

According to Georgy Korkin, who was at the time of his testimony already the Kirov's ex-director, Nureyev cried "That cannot be," turned pale and almost collapsed on hearing the news at Le Bourget airport.

A KGB officer on the tour, Vitaly Strizhevsky, told the investigation that Clara Saint, the Chilean girl some in the Kirov assumed was Nureyev's lover, found them at an airport cafe.

"He suddenly jumped up and quickly left the cafe. I followed him. 'Where are you going?' I asked. 'Come back. The Moscow plane leaves soon,'" said Strizhevsky. "He muttered something, from which I concluded only that he had taken some decision."

"Six uniformed policemen appeared from somewhere, plus one in plain clothes. They twisted my arms and hustled me away from Nureyev."

"I know what I am doing. But I can't go back," Nureyev told Sergei Melnikov, a lighting technician who later pleaded with him not to defect. "Now, when they accuse me of treason, they can shoot me."

What would he be shot for? Melnikov objected. "They know what for," Nureyev remarked grimly. "I can't live in the Soviet Union, they'll shoot me. And here I'll probably kill myself."

The KGB investigation was not an inquiry into how Nureyev was able to make his escape. But it does touch on the issue of who was to blame for what was a major embarrassment for the Soviet Union at the height of the Cold War.

Korkin and Strizhevsky were called into the Soviet embassy on the morning of the company's departure from Paris and were ordered to tell Nureyev that he was being sent back home at the very last minute.

"I considered that this was foolish and that it would not only shock Nureyev, but also provoke an international scandal. We were not at Sheremetyevo (Moscow's airport) but Le Bourget," Korkin said. "But no one listened to me."

Some key questions are left unanswered. Why was Nureyev suddenly summoned back to Moscow the day the rest of the Kirov troupe travelled on to London? And how much did the KGB know about his homosexuality?

Clearly, Capt Valdivaitsev of the Leningrad KGB had other priorities when he began his criminal investigation into Nureyev's flight to the West.

The 214-page dossier does prove that, after his defection, the KGB knew about his liaison with the dancer and choreographer, Pierre Lacotte. And Nureyev's homosexuality was an open secret among the Kirov dancers.

"We hardly saw him at the hotel," said Alla Osipenko, his dancing partner. "Very soon we discovered where in fact he was: among his admirers were many people with deviations from the norm - homosexuals."

Such testimony was used as evidence in Nureyev's closed trial, held in his absence in Leningrad in April 1962. It found him guilty of treason and sentenced him to seven years' imprisonment.

In theory, he could have been arrested and sent to prison during any of his three visits to Russia before his death at the age of 54, in 1993.

The court also ordered the confiscation of all Nureyev's property. But his only possession of any value when he defected was an upright piano, the documents reveal.

(The Daily Telegraph)



Rudolf Nureyev and Margot Fonteyn rehearse 'Le Corsaire' at the Royal Opera House in London's Covent Garden in 1962, a year after Nureyev defected from the Soviet Union.

Music of the mountain warriors

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

When Piris Eliahu formed the Dem Ensemble he had a very clear idea in mind.

The 38-year-old composer/performer who immigrated to Israel about a decade ago from the Republic of Dagestan (in the eastern Caucasian area of the former Soviet Union) wanted to perform the greatest classical music of Azerbaijan, as well as Turkish and Persian classical music, on a regular basis.

"Classical musicians play music by Chopin, Tchaikovsky and Beethoven at the same time so there is no real reason why we cannot play music deriving from various sources and in variegated styles as well, especially when the styles are very close one to another," Eliahu says.

In the two years since its founding, the Dem Ensemble performed all over Israel, including in a special program for kindergartens. This year the ensemble opens its new season with a special concert featuring one of the greatest singers of Azerbaijan, Wahid Abd Alieb Ali Ugli. "He is one of the most famous classical singers of the country and on the plane to Israel he was already invited to sing at many family celebrations here. But this time around he sings only with us."

The classical music that Dem plays reached its peak in the Middle Ages. It was never noted. "We are talking about oral traditions from many centuries ago, and although I compose the occasional work, no one writes Azeri classical music any more."

Eliahu explains that the major characteristic of this specific music is its emotional quality. "Persian music, for example, is much more tender. Not that our music lacks this tenderness, but our people were warriors in the mountains and the intensified emotions of their life found its place in the music as well. This is also why our music is much more flowing in nature and form than the Persian music."

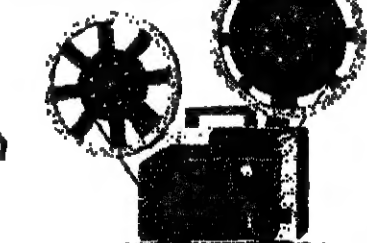
Eliahu cannot explain clearly why he immigrated to Israel. "I had a great life back home. At 23 I was already teaching at the leading university of my homeland and at another important music college. So it's hard to say, it's probably a combination of some Zionism and a search for myself."

Eliahu recently completed an anthology of Caucasian Jewish music that he started back home. Here in Israel he continues to compose quite regularly and his music is performed by many local ensembles such as Musica Nova, the recently inaugurated Shesh Besh ensemble, the Ramat Gan Chamber Orchestra and others. And aside from researching, teaching at Bar-Ilan University and composing, he plays the tar, a plucked string instrument. He also plays a sort of an eastern accordion. In the Dem Ensemble he is joined by Yuri Pinhasov on traditional wind instruments, Manshir Sitklov on the stringed tanbur and Slava Shaulov on traditional percussion instruments.

The Dem Ensemble plays a special concert tonight at 9 at the Zionist Confederation House in Jerusalem.

How close can two people be?

Movie Review



By Adina Hoffman

THE DREAM LIFE OF ANGELS (La Vie rêvée des anges)

Directed by Erick Zonca. Screenplay by Erick Zonca and Roger Bohbot. Hebrew title: *Chelomot u'el Micholim*. 113 minutes. French dialogue, English and Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children. With Elodie Bouchez, Natacha Regnier, Gregoire Colin.



Natacha Regnier (left) and Elodie Bouchez celebrate their joint triumph as Best Actress at this year's Cannes film festival.

The first movie by French director Erick Zonca, *The Dream Life of Angels* takes most of its emotional cues from the two amazing young actresses who play the leads. As a couple of down-and-out roommates, struggling to keep themselves in food and cigarettes in the gritty northern town of Lille, Elodie Bouchez and Natacha Regnier (who split the best actress award at this year's Cannes film festival) both give performances of remarkable vulnerability and freshness.

Zonca almost seems to have hooked up his camera and editing machine to the women's central nervous systems: in the early scenes, when the friendship is new between boyish, bright-eyed Isa (Bouchez) and thin, blonde, tightly coiled Marie (Regnier), there's a buzz in the air. Following just a step behind them as they run laughing down the street and cutting quickly from one bit to the next, the director gives their growing connection the breathless urgency and zing of a new romance.

Both have families somewhere in the distance, but they carry themselves like orphaned waifs, at once desperate for affection and suspicious of anyone who might offer it up. Marie, especially, seems quite damaged, always poised to lash out violently or shoot off a string of scabrous insults as a porcupine-like means of self-defense.

She may in fact be the needier of the two, though it is Isa who wears her hunger for affection on her

sleeve. She's the one who initiates the friendship and who works hardest to keep it going, even as Marie begins a tumultuous affair with an arrogant rich kid and grows more and more difficult, spewing venom at her friend for no apparent reason. While Isa is the more sensitive and easily likeable of the pair (in a weird, compelling subplot she finds herself drawn to sit at the bedside of a comatose little girl, a total stranger whose apartment she's living in and whose diary she has secretly read), Zonca is careful never to demonize Marie. If anything, we pity her. Her contempt for the world is painful to witness, as it so obviously comes from her crushing hatred of herself, and by extension anyone who could possibly love her.

The film traces the women's relationship, from its giddy beginnings to its difficult end, and in the process it veers from moments of powerfully rendered intimacy to scenes that are simply a drag. This is often the problem that plagues movies about bad marriages: as the connection between the characters sours and the words between them grow harsher and louder, viewers themselves may begin to feel trapped.

And since the spontaneous energy of the early part relies on such tight tracking of the characters' feelings, it comes as little surprise

that the later sections - when those feelings darken and twist - threaten to smother the audience. The picture loses much of its focus in the second half, goes on too long, and culminates at the very end in a regrettable melodramatic spasm. One may also wonder just who the angels of the title are supposed to be. The strength of the film comes from the very fallibility and rough humanity of these drifters, with their bad haircuts and sloppy slang. ("C'est cool" is Isa's favorite expression.) To think of them as somehow seraphic seems precious and cheap. The comatose girl, although caught at a delicate spot between life and death, is also no angel, as her diary indicates. That is what makes it so moving.

But despite these weaknesses *The Dream Life* intrigues. The actresses shine and, though Zonca is not always in complete control, he does manage to pose complicated and provocative questions about the nature of friendship: how close can two people ever really be? How can one ever know what is going on in the head of another person? In some strange sense, it's clear that Isa feels she better understands the unconscious stranger in the hospital bed than she does her supposed bosom buddy. At its best moments, the movie also brings us so near to her, we can almost feel her breath.

Pamela Anderson loses court bid to keep nude images off Internet

By DAVID ROSENZWEIG

Former Baywatch actress Pamela Anderson Lee and talk-radio therapist Laura Schlessinger, a staunch advocate of conservative sexual mores, both lost court battles last week to keep nude pictures of them out of circulation.

In separate federal court cases, lawyers for the two women tried to block a Seattle-based Internet company from disseminating 12 nude photos of Schlessinger taken two decades ago and a sexually explicit honeymoon video of Anderson Lee and her now estranged husband, rock star Tommy Lee.

Both personalities had filed motions against Internet Entertainment Group, which bills

itself as the No. 1 purveyor of sexually oriented material on the Web.

In Schlessinger's case, US District Judge Dean Pregerson lifted a restraining order he had issued October 23, after Internet Entertainment posted photos of a bare-breasted and sometimes fully nude Dr. Laura on its Club Love sex site. He said that any further court injunction would be pointless after at least five other Web sites had copied the photos without permission.

After hearing arguments, Pregerson said he intends to throw out Anderson Lee's entire suit because she and Tommy Lee signed away their rights to damages in a 1997 out-of-court settlement with Internet Entertainment Group. (Los Angeles Times)

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FROM THE REVIEWS:
"A wise and amusing play with a director and cast that transform it into a fascinating production. It is truly difficult to know who to praise more: Zvi Meir as the son, in the portrayal of today's youth; Alon Ofir as the British Officer; in a role that demands song and dance as well as a convincing performance in English; Orad Shalev as the husband, who is credible in an idealistic fervor and tantalizing masculinity; Shiri Golan as the young Michaela, a touching, naive rebel; Meir Gribler as the sister, a fascinating figure of tragicomic relief with excellent timing and impressive dancing; Lior Gidoni as the play's core, whose beauty and talent capture the heart. Uniquely of all this, there is still Yossi Yossi, an outstanding actor who moves one to tears in the person of the aged Shaul." (Ha'aretz - Michael Handelskutz)

"Edna Mazya displays a marvelous dimension of humor... The director Omri Nitzan created a gripping play... But the real treasure is the outstanding cast... (Ha'aretz - Eyalim Yaron)

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Cyprus warning signal

Spying in a small town evidently is no picnic. A local Cypriot resident reportedly began to suspect two Israelis were up to no good when they did not eat at his restaurant. But then again, the Cypriots must be experts at spotting spies – their nation has been called the spy capital of the Middle East.

It is not clear, as of this writing, whether the two Israelis arrested were in fact spies, and if so, who they were spying on. The reported suspicion by Cypriot authorities that they were spying for Turkey was met by a mixed response from Israeli analysts; some dismissing the possibility as farfetched, others claiming that it would not be surprising at all.

According to Reuters, Cypriot security authorities are now claiming that the two Israelis were not working for the Israeli government. If this is true, Israel may be spared one of the most problematic implications of this incident, namely that Mossad agents have once again made an embarrassing mistake. The lofty reputation of the Mossad has been dealt two blows in less than two years – the botched assassination of Khaled Mashaal in Jordan in September 1997 and the arrest of five Israeli agents in Bern, Switzerland, in February of this year. If Israeli agents were again caught red-handed, it would be hard to dismiss the matter as bad luck.

Whether or not this proves to be a case of negligence on the part of the Mossad, it should provide an opportunity for the new Mossad leadership to review whether the lessons from the last two failures have been learned. The Mashaal affair spawned both the Ciechanover Commission and a separate report by a Knesset committee. Both investigations determined that the episode was not the result of compartmentalized error, but of systemic defects at a number of levels. The resignation of Mossad chief Danny Yatom and the appointment of Ephraim Halevy (and Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine as his deputy) were supposed to have set the stage for agency-wide implementation of the recommendations of the two committees.

Since then, Halevy has reportedly not met with Ciechanover, and it is not evident that these bitter recent experiences have resulted in sweeping changes within the agency. The Mossad should not wait for the next failure before taking the Ciechanover and Knesset

reports seriously and acting on their recommendations.

This week's incident in Cyprus should also be taken as a warning signal regarding the broader implications of Israel's deepening ties with Turkey. The government, to its credit, has worked to maintain good relations with Turkey's foes, Greece and Cyprus, even as its ties with Turkey have deepened. The visits of President Ezer Weizman to Turkey and Cyprus last week offer a good example of how it is possible for a third nation to have good relations with both sides in an ongoing dispute.

If Israel were caught spying for Turkey, it would obviously set back this effort considerably, erasing the good will generated by the first visit of an Israeli president to Nicosia. But even if the arrested Israelis turn out to have been freelancers, Israel will have to work harder to maintain a balancing act between its different friendships in the region.

Recently, for example, Cyprus was concerned that Israeli jets were flying reconnaissance missions over the island, possibly to photograph new S-300 ground-to-air missile sites. Israel has repeatedly stated that its relationship with Cyprus is not directed against any other nation. Though such statements are diplomatically important, they should also be reflected in clear policies. It is one thing for Israel to share information with Turkey regarding a common adversary, and quite another to aid Turkey in conflicts with countries that have friendly relations with Israel. It is for this reason that, if the two arrested Israelis prove to have been spying against Cyprus, the damage will be noteworthy.

The Israeli-Turkish relationship is a natural and beneficial one, and its deepening is generally good news. Certainly, neither country should be deterred by the fact that aggressive and dictatorial regimes, such as Syria, complain about moderate nations with common interests strengthening their ties. But Israel should not go so far as to harm its relations with countries with which it has no quarrel, such as Cyprus and Greece, for the sake of its relations with Turkey. By the same token, to the extent that Greece and Cyprus are true friends of Israel's, they will understand and accept an Israeli relationship with Turkey that does not harm them.

Truly local

YOSEF GOELL

In considering this year's local election campaign, it has occurred to me that the pendulum has swung way too far.

Up to the late 1970s, local elections were dominated by the national political parties, and the election results often reflected the divisions on national questions rather than any debate on local issues. The result was, by and large, local government that ranged from poor to awful.

This, eventually, led to the adoption of a partial reform, instituting the direct election of mayors and local council heads, while retaining the election of lists for the city and local councils.

The results of the new system were generally beneficial. The overall quality of the men who have been elected to run our towns and cities (unfortunately, there are still almost no women heading local governments), is certainly more impressive than that of those who sit in the Knesset or in the cabinet.

How land is used is thus a major

Local governments – which our small country, incidentally, has far too many of – provide essential basic services such as garbage disposal, road construction and maintenance, providing and maintaining the local infrastructure and maintaining schools and other public institutions that profoundly affect the quality of our lives.

They play a possibly even more crucial role in determining land use and the extent and type of construction that will be carried out within their boundaries.

Just last week, it was announced that Israel's population has passed the six million mark, and population projections predict that it will continue to grow to well over 8 million in the next quarter of a century. Because so many of us insist on living in the narrow coastal strip, that area has already become among the most crowded in the developed world.

How land is used is thus a major

It's time to consider making local councils more directly representative

for that matter.

Over the years, the influence of the major parties on the choice of candidates has been reduced to nearly nil – to the point where this year, in both Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, the local Labor and the Likud machines are either opposed to the candidates appearing in their names or distinctly cool to them.

In many ways, this virtual demise of the power of parties has been for the good.

Why, then, do I write that the pendulum seems to have swung too far in the opposite direction?

Because we have frightening and mounting evidence from the present campaign that the vacuum that has been left by the nearly defunct local party machines has been filled not so much by forces promoting non-partisan good government, but by those of moneyed vested interests.

factor in the quality of our daily lives. And since mayors and local authority heads have great influence in this area, it is an area in which the potential for corruption is great.

A difference of several percentage points in building density approvals can mean scores of millions in profits to contractors and developers, who, not surprisingly, are often major contributors to political campaigns.

Observers of the local political arena believe that the growing violence that has marked this year's elections is largely a reflection of competing special interests, particularly real estate interests.

The role of the local councils as watchdogs against possible corrupt collusion between town executives and real estate and other moneyed interests thus becomes more important than ever. Very

Dry Bones



few local councils, however, have been doing a good job of monitoring these possible links.

PERHAPS it is time to consider completing the local elections reform begun two decades ago, by changing the manner in which local councils are chosen to an election based on neighborhood representation. The more direct access of residents to their elected neighborhood councilmen could provide an important additional check on the power of town executives.

Such a change could also help deal with the other major problem confronting many local governments: the forging and maintaining of sustainable working relationships between disparate parts of the population and their different interests: secular and haredim, veteran Israelis and new immi-

grants, and populations of different socioeconomic levels.

Mayor Ehud Olmert in Jerusalem, for example, has failed miserably in striking a fair balance between the interests of the city's non-haredi majority and its militant haredi minority. The result has been a dangerous exacerbation of frictions in the city.

Until such additional reforms can be enacted, the best advice for residents who care about the quality of life in their neighborhoods is to go out tomorrow and vote. The choice may often boil down to the lesser of the evils, but that is what political maturity is often about.

Last week's American congressional elections show that when enough potential voters who have been written off by the pros do bother to come out and vote, they make a difference.

The new notion of security

EFRAIM INBAR

Personal security has become the new Israeli codeword for the equivalent of peace with the country's Arab neighbors. The new notion of personal security has eclipsed the traditional Israeli preoccupation with assuring the security of the Jewish state and its society in the midst of a hostile environment.

Until recently, Israelis perceived the country's mere existence to be under an extremely high level of threat. Such collective existential fears about survival – a response to Arab enmity and persistent attempts to wage war – have been replaced with a more nonchalant view about the national security challenges facing Israel. The positive changes in the strategic environment and the peace process lowered the chances of a large-scale war, as well as the general level of perceived threat.

Yet, precisely because of the improvement in Israel's strategic situation in the 1990s, people expected fewer acts of violence to disrupt their daily routine. Unfortunately, this did not happen. On the contrary, the number of Israeli casualties has increased in the last decade, as terrorists perpetrated spectacular attacks in streets, buses and markets.

Personal security became an issue in the 1992 elections, and gained greater importance in 1996. Secure peace has become a euphemism for political arrangements with neighboring political entities which provide personal security.

Today, Israelis want a few simple things: to make trips in their own

country without worrying about terrorists; to travel safely on buses; to wake up in the morning finding their cars still parked nearby; to live near forests without fear of arsonists.

So far, the widespread perception is that the Arabs are preventing the fulfillment of these ordinary wishes.

To a great extent, the increased centrality of personal security was also the result of the more serene attitude of Israelis to the content of the expected peace with our neigh-

boring countries. Almost 20 years after the peace treaty with Egypt, most Israelis realize that what was termed in the past "normalization" is something that Egypt has been unwilling to accept, despite its formal commitment to the concept.

Israelis have learned that the Arab societies with which they tried to become more intimate were unwilling to engage in people-to-people interactions.

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra did not perform in Cairo or Amman, and no Arab sports team played in Israel. Most Arab intellectuals continue to boycott their Israeli counterparts, despite the fact that they are leading advocates of reconciliation in Israeli society.

Even the "warm peace" with Jordan has not extended to the people-to-people level. Disappointed at the lack of peace, as understood here, Israelis decided to settle for security. Peace no longer means free movement of people and goods in a cordial manner, but it has reverted to the original negative sense of lack of war and a very con-

Israelis have become increasingly afraid of contacts with Arabs and just want to be left alone, in safety

crete aspiration for personal security. Israelis no longer want to eat hummus in Damascus, see the pyramids, or look for bargains in Arab markets; they have become increasingly afraid of contacts with Arabs and just want to be left alone, in safety.

The importance of personal security has been heightened due to changes in Israeli society. Pursuit of personal fulfillment has become more fashionable than in the past. We all observe more emphasis on individualistic values at the expense of promoting collective goals and aspirations. The notion of personal security seems only natural as the replacement within today's Israel of

the weakened fears of collective survival, real or imagined.

National security has always been perceived and acted upon in a social context. Stressing personal security reflects a genuine widespread growing Israeli phenomenon.

This new phenomenon is very significant in the domestic political arena, and can be translated into votes. Moreover, astute politicians are responsive to this new mood in their rhetoric and actions, internally and externally.

The prism for better understanding contemporary Israel is personal security.

Unfortunately, however, it is not the best device for understanding and coping with the security problems of the State of Israel. Terror, which is the greatest anathema to personal security has remained strategically only a nuisance. The myopic quest for personal security diverts attention from the larger picture where threats to the collective are looming.

Israeli society must enter an era of living in the shadow of a nuclear mushroom. Its insistence on stressing personal security and its unwillingness to sacrifice some of its standard of living to acquire better defenses against less concrete and immediate threats could be destructive.

The writer is associate professor of political studies and the director of the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

Kristallnacht's lesson for today

NAOMI BLUMENTHAL

Sixty years ago today, Nazi mobs rampaged across Germany in the pogrom that would come to be known as Kristallnacht. Over 100 synagogues were torched, Jewish businesses were destroyed and thousands of Jews were rounded up in one of the worst attacks witnessed in Europe in centuries.

My family was among those targeted during Kristallnacht. My grandmother owned a small shop; the Nazi mob smashed its windows and caused extensive damage. The next day, non-Jewish acquaintances, ashamed at what their fellow Germans had done, gave my grandmother a bouquet of flowers. Though a nice gesture, it did little to assuage my family's sense of foreboding.

The fires that raged throughout Germany that evening ignited the conflagration that eventually consumed six million Jewish men, women and children. Fueling the catastrophe was a hatred that had been carefully stoked, one which played on popular and deeply ingrained anti-Semitism. What began as anti-Jewish propaganda eventually snowballed into anti-Jewish violence.

The defeat of the Nazis did not result in an end to such hatred. As the survivors of the Nazi atrocities dwindle in numbers with the passage of time, those who would deny the horrors of the Holocaust seem to be gaining in strength. Sadly, these

merchants of hate have found an ample market for their wares in the Arab world.

Denying the Holocaust has become a favorite theme of Arab columnists and journalists. The official media in several Arab countries repeatedly and unashamedly label the Holocaust a "myth" being propagated by Israel and the Jews for political or financial gain.

Among the worst offenders is the official Egyptian press. A September 25, 1998 article in the official Egyptian daily *Al-Akhar*, entitled, "The Holocaust, Netanyahu and Me," argued "the Jews invented the myth of mass extermination and the fabrication that 6 million Jews were put to death in Nazi ovens... the Holocaust is an Israeli myth which was invented to blackmail the world."

A July 14 article in the same paper asserted, "The State of Israel is a state based on blackmail. Zionism has elevated the Holocaust to a sacred level and uses it for the purposes of blackmail."

Echoing the pseudo-science of Holocaust deniers in the West, Arab columnists have sought to "prove" that the Nazis could not have murdered six million Jews.

In an article sarcastically entitled "Find the Jews," the chief editor of an official Egyptian weekly wrote: "There are no findings to indicate the existence of mass graves."

establish their state, which has not yet been erased."

Not content with minimizing the Holocaust, some Arab commentators have gone so far as to say that the Jews actually benefited from it.

The official Palestinian Authority newspaper, *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*, in a July 2 article, asserted that the Jews "invented the shocking story of the gas ovens, where Hitler allegedly burned them...the persecution of the Jews is a deceitful myth which the Jews have labeled the Holocaust and have exploited to get sympathy..."

"And even if it is possible that Hitler's assault against the Jews hurt them a little, the fact is it did them a clear service whose fruits they are reaping until today..."

The mounting wave of Holocaust denial in the Arab world betrays more than just historical ignorance. It is a symptom of unbridled hatred and contempt for the Jewish people and a lack of sensitivity for its unprecedented suffering.

Such crude antisemitism may strike us today as pathetic and ineffective propaganda. But the lesson of Kristallnacht is that when a populace is repeatedly fed such coarse indoctrination, the result is often tragic.

The time has come for the Arab world to learn this lesson.

The writer is a Likud MK and chairwoman of the Knesset Aliya and Absorption Committee.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DANGEROUS CONDEMNATION

Sir, –Israel Radio and Channel 2 television broadcast a statement made in Ramallah on Saturday, October 31 by Yasser Arafat, on the subject of the attempted massacre of scores of schoolchildren in Gush Katif on a bus on its way to school.

He said, "What good did this do, and why now?" (i.e. when it

might torpedo the implementation of the Wye accord.)

In these few words, Arafat exposed the true face of the Palestinians – one identical with that of the Hamas.

No condemnation of the staggering monstrosity of the attempted mass murder of a busload of schoolchildren, but only:

REAL DEMOCRACY

Sir, – Interior Minister Eli Suissa wants to demand "a substantial, non-refundable down payment from candidates" next time we have local elections.

Because it will ensure that all the candidates are members or

minions of the affluent class? No, but because otherwise "everyone with a chip on his shoulder can decide to run in the municipal elections and then step down just before election day," says Suissa.

Well, if stepping down is the

problem, how about a deposit that is refunded unless the candidate steps down?

What is democracy about, if not the idea that everyone with a chip on his shoulder can run and the voters can sort them out?

ZEPHANIAH KAHALANI

Jerusalem.

RITTER IS RIGHT

Sir, – Danna Harman's "Newsline" interview with ex-UN weapons inspector Scott Ritter (November 3) made me wonder what would have happened 60 years ago if the US had monitored Hitler's activity in a similar way to what they are doing with Saddam

Hussein's activity now. Would the US, in 1939, have looked away from Hitler's crimes instead of joining the war to eliminate him?

Ritter is right in pointing out that in closing his eyes to Saddam Hussein's pursuits now, President

Clinton's attitude leaves a big question mark over his attitude towards Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian compliance with the peace process.

R. WILLERS

Middlesex, England.

TASTY FOR SOME

Sir, – We would like to thank Joel Gordin for his kind review of our pageant *Springboks and Sabras*, "South Africans make a song and dance about aliya." (November 3).

However, as the section regarding the refreshments cast aspersions on former South African

caterers renowned for their expertise. I wish to set the record straight.

Those credited with catering in the program provided food backstage for the crew and cast. This was, I may say, most delicious and very lavish. The "meager fare" offered to the public was catered

by the person under contract to the Heichal Hatarbut, Kfar Sava, whose services we were obliged to use.

LINDA BARRON

Production Coordinator.

Kfar Sava

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On November 9, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that the planned 1934 Levant Fair in Tel Aviv had assumed an international aspect as many countries in Europe, Africa and Asia, including Egypt and Syria, had offered marked reductions in railway, shipping and freight fares to encourage participation.

50 years ago: On November 9,

1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the first national census had been completed in all territory which had been under Jewish control up to October 14, 1948.

Jerusalem's 115th day of truce was broken by Arabs when they fired mortars and threw grenades toward the Talpiti and Katamon quarters. Heavy firing was reported at Jewish positions at the Notre Dame Monastery and in Musraa.

25 years ago: On November 9, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Israel accepted the US plan for POW exchange, the Egyptian agreed to their surrounded Third Army, the opening of Bab el-Mandeh Straits and the thinning of armies.

A car-less day was planned to be introduced by December 1, 1973.

Alexander Zvielli

Sunday, November 8, 1998

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9

Grand Old Problem

The Republican Middle Looks for an Edge

By RICHARD L. BERKE

AFTER a year of misery and distraction, White House aides repeated this joke with unabashed glee, given their surprising good fortune in last Tuesday's elections: "The Monica Strategy: It worked."

The reality is that — intended or not — an election that had been billed as a referendum on Bill Clinton ended up as much a referendum on the Republican Party. The verdict: A traditional and pragmatic Republican agenda of fiscal conservatism is in. A single-minded focus on social issues is out.

"It was a very bad day for the ideological, litmus-test Republicans," said Kenneth Duberstein, a chief of staff for President Ronald Reagan.

Many of the most conservative candidates had already been knocked off in primaries, and there were more casualties on Tuesday: Gov. Fob James of Alabama, a champion of fundamentalists who had pressed for posting the Ten Commandments in courtrooms; and Senator Lauch Faircloth of North Carolina, a favorite of the Christian Coalition. Representative Mark Neumann of Wisconsin, who repeatedly invoked his support for banning late-term abortions, lost his bid for the Senate. Jim Ross Lightfoot, who in a television blitz blasted his opponent for favoring nude dancing, lost what had been considered an easy election for Governor of Iowa.

In a race that was a high priority for religious conservatives, Tom Bordonaro, described by former President Gerald R. Ford as "one of those extreme right-wing" candidates, lost his drive to oust Representative Lois Capps of California.

And the retiring Gov. Pete Wilson of California, a Republican, said he was convinced his party's candidate, Dan Lungren, fell to the Democrat Gray Davis in part because Mr. Lungren opposed abortion rights. "He was attacked by Davis relentlessly in television ads," Mr. Wilson said. "It was practically a mantra."

There was more bad news in ballot initiatives: Nineteen statewide referenda asked voters to choose between generally liberal and generally conservative positions on taxation and social issues like abortion, affirmative action, gambling and gun control; voters picked the more liberal side in 14.

And in a New York Times/CBS News Poll a month before the election, most Republicans (in-

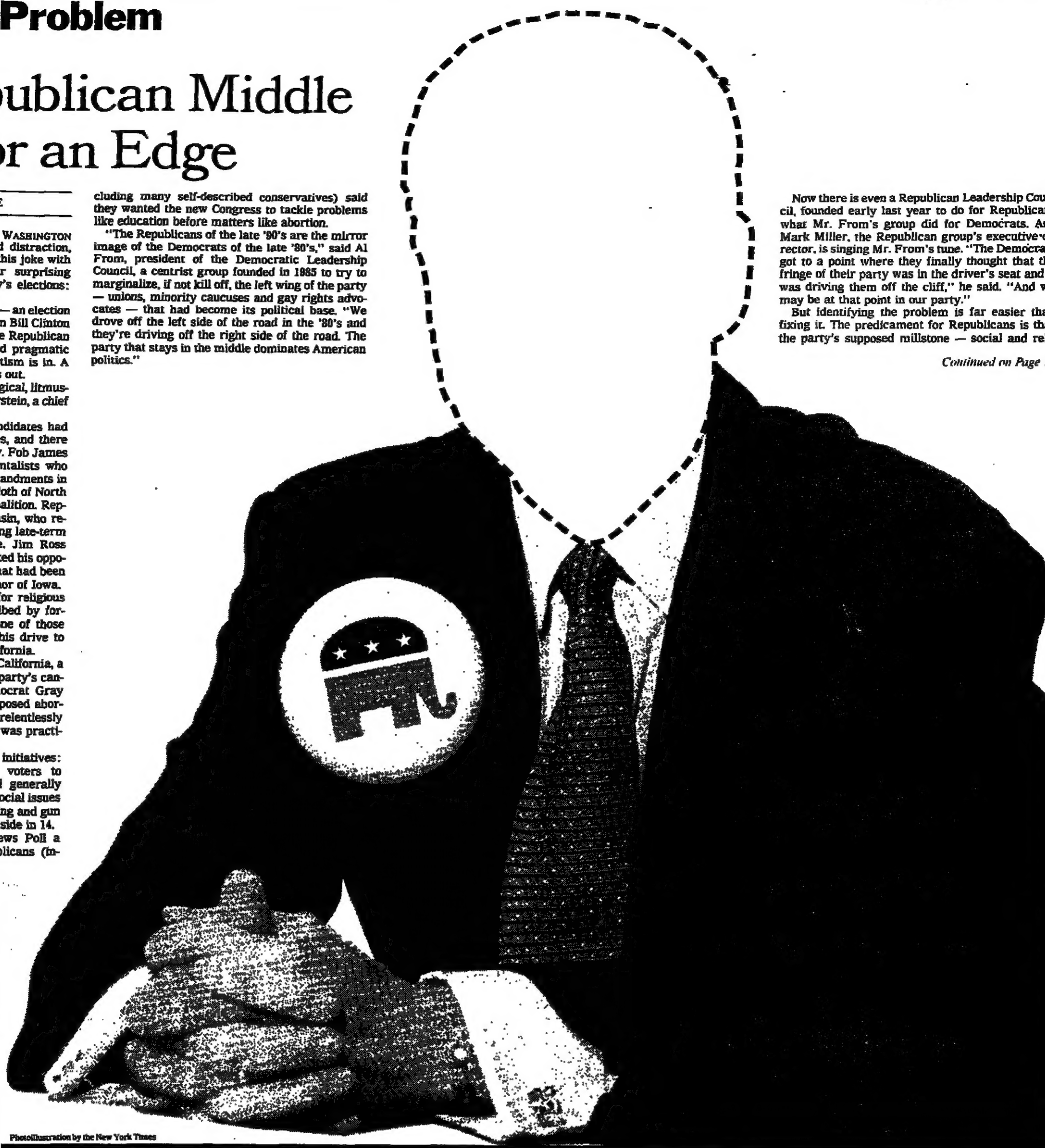
cluding many self-described conservatives) said they wanted the new Congress to tackle problems like education before matters like abortion.

"The Republicans of the late '80's are the mirror image of the Democrats of the late '80's," said Al From, president of the Democratic Leadership Council, a centrist group founded in 1985 to try to marginalize, if not kill off, the left wing of the party — unions, minority caucuses and gay rights advocates — that had become its political base. "We drove off the left side of the road in the '80's and they're driving off the right side of the road. The party that stays in the middle dominates American politics."

Now there is even a Republican Leadership Council, founded early last year to do for Republicans what Mr. From's group did for Democrats. And Mark Miller, the Republican group's executive director, is singing Mr. From's tune. "The Democrats got to a point where they finally thought that the fringe of their party was in the driver's seat and it was driving them off the cliff," he said. "And we may be at that point in our party."

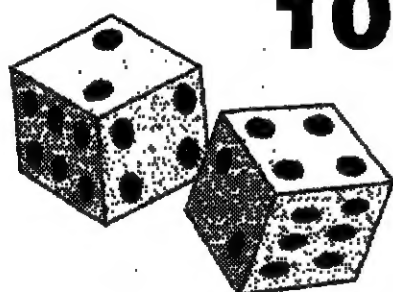
But identifying the problem is far easier than fixing it. The predicament for Republicans is that the party's supposed millstone — social and reli-

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Photoillustration by the New York Times

Aces Wild
For Americans,
too much
gambling is
never enough.



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Disaster Management
Hurricanes and
governments.

By Larry Rohter

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Body to Mind
Minnesota voters
break tradition.

By Pam
Belluck

11



Reconciling in South Africa

Next Up for Amnesty: The Unrepentant

By SUZANNE DALEY

THE deal that South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission offered was simple enough: Confess your crimes, apply for amnesty and you will go free. If you don't come forward, you will be prosecuted.

After more than two years of hearings into apartheid-era atrocities, the commission last week unveiled a 3,500-page report naming dozens of people it believes were up to their elbows in the gore but never applied for amnesty. So the prosecutions should begin soon, right?

Not so fast. The study was barely in the hands of President Nelson Mandela before talk of new amnesty deals had begun.

It seems that nearly all of South Africa's political parties — including the ruling African National Congress — have key officials who could end up in the dock because of the report. Suddenly, there is lots of talk about how the country can't withstand a round of politically divisive trials, and many political analysts here are betting that an agreement "of mutual benefit" is in the offing.

Already, three major political parties are calling for some kind of new amnesty, and the A.N.C. isn't closing the door. An A.N.C. spokesman, Thabo Masebe, said it was "premature" to talk of a general amnesty, but he acknowledged that the party was discussing an amnesty specifically tailored to violence by black South Africans against other blacks that littered the KwaZulu/Natal province with bodies during the late 80's and into the 90's.

In choosing a truth commission rather than a Nuremberg-style trial with which to close out its brutal past, South Africa hoped for an idealistic reconciliation. People would come clean and receive true forgiveness. Society would then be able to move on, its wounds

cleansed and healed. It was a model watched closely around the world by other societies wondering how to disentangle themselves from the grudges of a brutal past.

But given the chance, hundreds of South Africa's perpetrators did not come forward. Commission officials themselves say they were frustrated by the lack of cooperation, however exhaustive their report may seem.

It is perhaps too late, however, to press for more. Today's South Africa has urgent new problems to deal with — unemployment, crime, white flight, too few schools and hospitals. So it may wind up settling for a more pragmatic reconciliation — one that gives amnesty to the unrepentant simply because it's more practical for all concerned to move on.

The Real Test

In recent years, truth commissions have gained popularity in many places, notably Chile, Argentina and El Salvador. But South Africa's — the biggest and most powerful, able to grant amnesty and to subpoena witnesses — was supposed to be the real test.

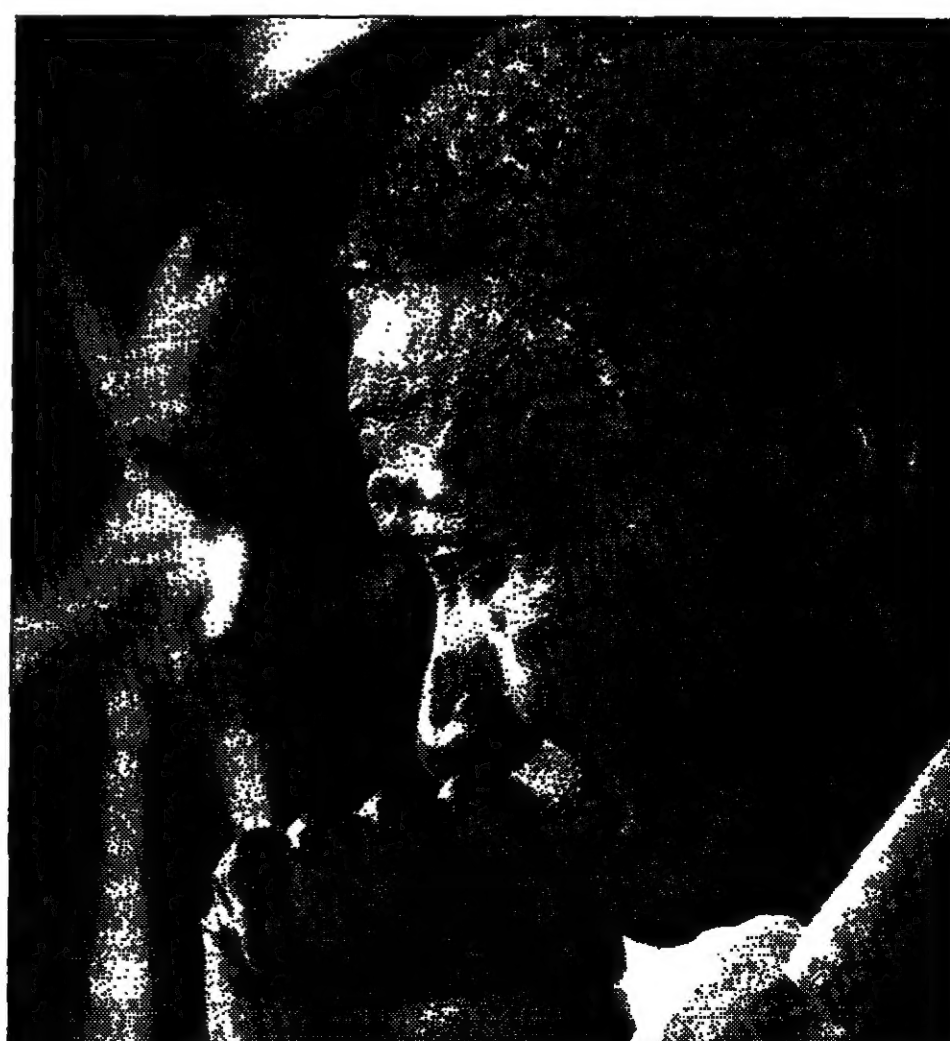
Certainly the commission forced the nation to see the gruesome details of its past, as sobbing survivors and stone-faced torturers told of smashed genitals and near suffocations. And the commission's work added much to the knowledge about what happened in South Africa between 1960 and 1994. But it will be years before the effect of the commission can truly be judged.

Has anyone really forgiven anyone else? Will vendettas persist? No one can answer.

One thing seems clear, however: Four years after South Africa held its first non-racial elections, a growing number of South Africans want to be done with the past.

Raymond Louw, the publisher of a respected

Continued on Page 12



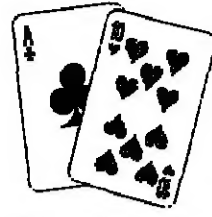
Greg Marlowich/Gamma Liaison

Daniel Sebolai, whose wife and son died in 1992, at a reconciliation workshop.

The Nation

Gambling: Married to the Action, for Better or Worse

By TIMOTHY L. O'BRIEN



WHEN California voters approved a measure last week giving Indian tribes broad permission to run casinos unhindered by state control, it was a big loss for the Coalition for Unregulated Gambling, one of the measure's fiercest opponents.

It's not that the coalition disapproves of gambling; in fact, it was financed largely by gambling companies based in that granddaddy of gambling states, Nevada. Why did Nevada's gambling bigwigs, many of whom have pushed aggressively for the acceptance of gambling in other parts of the country, work so hard to keep California from joining the club? Raw fear.

More than a third of Nevada's casino patrons come from California, and many of them will stay closer to home if Native Americans offer a more enticing menu of table games and slot machines, which the ballot measure permits. You don't need to be a bookie to know how bad that would be for business in Las Vegas.

California's tribes could end up with legal casinos with about 20,000 gaming devices, about 5 times the number at Foxwoods, the Indian casino in Connecticut, according to William Eadington, an economist at the University of Nevada at Reno. Foxwoods is the biggest gambling joint in the Western Hemisphere. Legislators in California may now feel compelled to legalize or expand gambling at card clubs, race tracks, bars and taverns, and other recreation centers. "All of this would indeed be bad news for Las Vegas," he said.

Nevadans also know that wagering is now a national industry and that the explosive growth of the business has made it available everywhere — on street corners, on the Internet, and all along the Mississippi River. By the year 2000, 90 percent of Americans will live within 200 miles of a legal casino, the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority noted in a recent report that pointed out challenges facing a town that is still regarded as the mecca of American gambling. Only a generation ago gamblers had few choices but Las Vegas.

But all gambling moguls, not just those based in Las Vegas, are looking over their shoulders. Gambling's ubiquity is forcing the industry's impresarios to fret about the best ways to drum up new business.

"Americans have all the gambling they want," said Eugene Christiansen, a gambling analyst with Christiansen/Cummings Associates in New York. "The driver of growth over the past three decades — the saturation of unsatisfied demand — is no longer there."

While Steve Wynn's new \$1.9 billion Las Vegas casino, the Bellagio, aims to attract new gamblers with luxurious rooms, posh shops and a collection of Picassos and Matisses, analysts expect most gambling concerns to focus on something more basic to stir up new business: gamblers' thirst for action and the fast-paced, mindless devices like slot machines and video lottery games that quench that thirst most effectively.

Even if its growth slows, gambling is still a colossal business. Americans bet \$638.6 billion legally in 1997 and lost about \$51 billion of that amount — more than the loot pulled in by the recording, movie and theme park businesses combined. Those losing bets were also up 70 percent from the \$30 billion gamblers forked over in 1992, according to International Gaming & Wagering Business, a trade publication.

But that money is being lost in a lot more places now. In 1989, nearly all casino gambling took place in Atlantic City and Las Vegas; now it's just over half. Riverboat gambling is now far bigger than the action in Atlantic City. And the boats are no longer confined to rivers. Last week, voters in Missouri approved a measure legalizing slot machines in casinos floating in artificial basins.

So most gambling concerns are now focused on a core mission: pushing games that appeal to gamblers' need for speed. Speed sells. Speed hooks gamblers. Slot machines have long since replaced the plodding table games of craps and roulette as the

mainstays of the casino business. Anyone walking into a casino a few decades ago, when the Rat Pack was in full swing in Las Vegas, would have encountered a room full of table games like blackjack and craps with slot machines relegated to the periphery where the little old ladies played. Today, slot machines dominate the floors of every casino and the allegiance of most gamblers — especially retirees parked in front of the slots at their local gambling den. Slot machines are fast and simple; craps games are not. So slots and other electronic gambling devices accounted for about 70 percent of the money that gamblers lost in casinos last year.

'Video Crack'

Many state lotteries, the recent Powerball mania notwithstanding, are encountering gamblers who are increasingly blasé about huge jackpots. The lottery industry calls it "jackpot fatigue," and many lotteries are relying on the speed of instant-ticket games to snag more gamblers. If piles of money aren't enough to get gamblers' attention, the adrenaline blast from a quick gambling hit usually will do the trick. The New York lottery, the largest state lottery in the nation, now gets more money from instant games than it does from its better known Lotto games that offer big jackpots and snare the lion's share of media coverage.

And on-line lottery games like New York's Quick Draw game — labeled "video crack" by its critics — let gamblers play a new game every few minutes. Video lottery terminals, though legal in only five states, generated a quarter of all lottery sales nationwide last year.

"There is no question that when you make these machines available, people use them," said Mr. Christiansen, the gambling analyst. "The other side of this is that with increased gambling you create social friction like compulsive gambling. It's a legitimate policy concern." The stakes in all of this are high, because compulsive gambling is still a fuzzy issue and is one of the key concerns of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission, which is currently examining the industry. It is expected to report its findings next year.

When criticized, the gambling industry rightly points out that most gamblers wager within their budgets and just do it for fun. Still, a significant number of gamblers — about 20 percent in most markets — lose the lion's share of the money, about 80 percent, according to casino executives. And within this core group, a sizeable though unquantifiable chunk are compulsive or problem gamblers.

Conventional wisdom has it that about 5 percent of the adult population, or some 10 million people, are compulsive gamblers. That is, they are hooked on gambling like others are hooked on nicotine, heroin or alcohol. But terms like compulsive and problem gambling are notoriously fuzzy, given that they are used to describe a wide variety of behaviors that do not fit easy definitions.

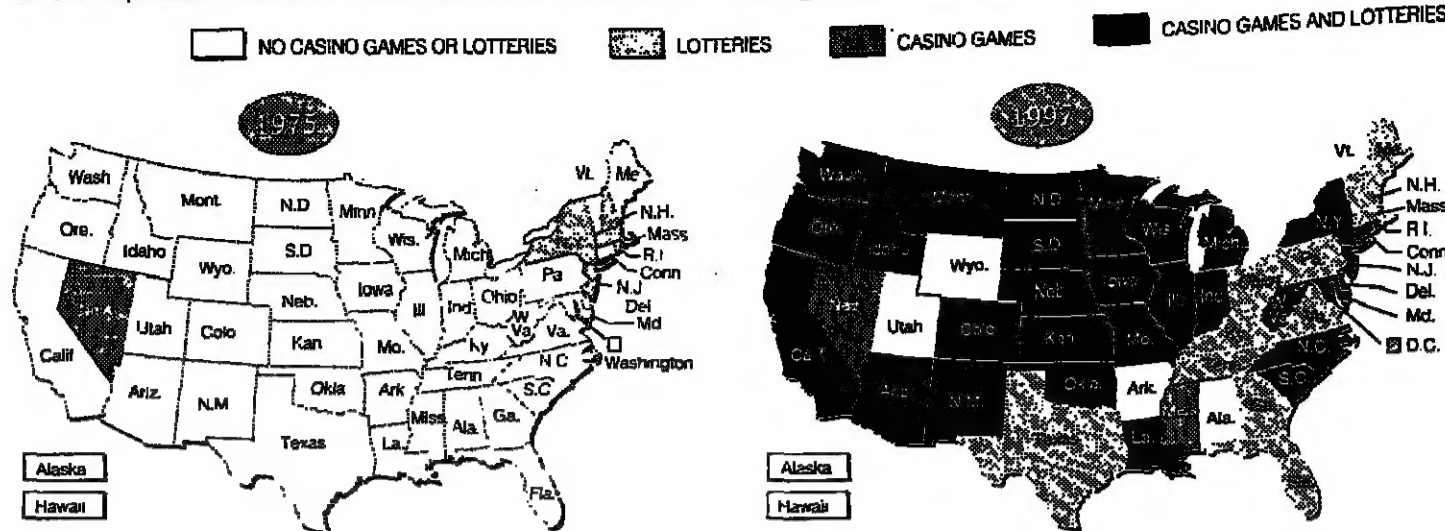
Last year, the Harvard Medical School published a study indicating that about 1 percent of the adult population and 6 percent of youths are what could be described as active compulsive gamblers. The same study found that about 3 percent of adults and 15 percent of youths are what could be described as problem gamblers, those who regularly wage beyond their means but are not addicted.

The same study also found that gambling disorders in the United States have been increasing over the last two decades. Needless to say, the growth in gambling problems coincides with the expansion of the gambling industry, and with faster games. It is the faster, repetitive games that tend to be the most addictive.

Still, attempts to put the brakes on gambling have little success. Frank Padavan, a Republican State Senator from Queens, sponsored legislation earlier this year to limit gambling, but it failed. "Compulsive gambling disorders," he said, "may be for Generation X what cocaine and crack were for their parents' generation."

The Stakes Get Higher

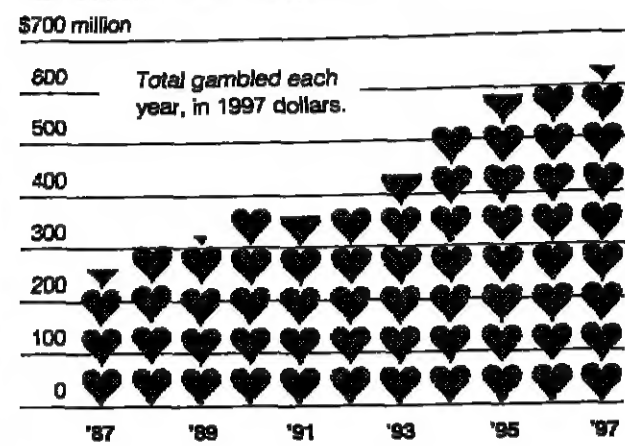
Just over 20 years ago, Americans had limited opportunities to gamble. Outside of Nevada, the only state with casinos, a handful of Northeastern states offered lotteries. Now almost every state offers some form of gambling; only Hawaii and Utah bar all forms. On the maps below Native American casinos are included but not betting on horse racing, and bingo and other charitable games.



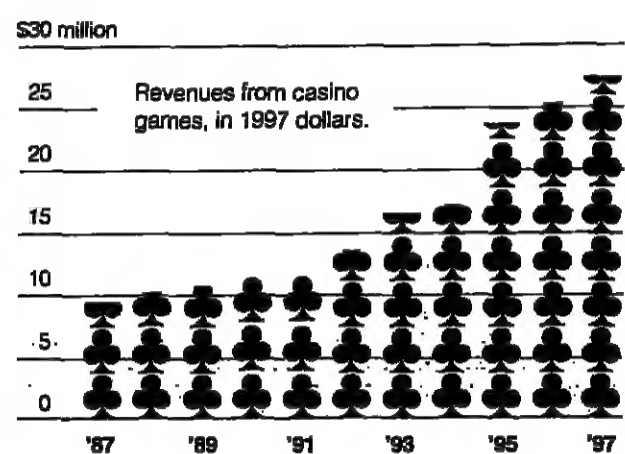
Yes, it's for real. This latest gambling device was on display at a recent trade show in Las Vegas.



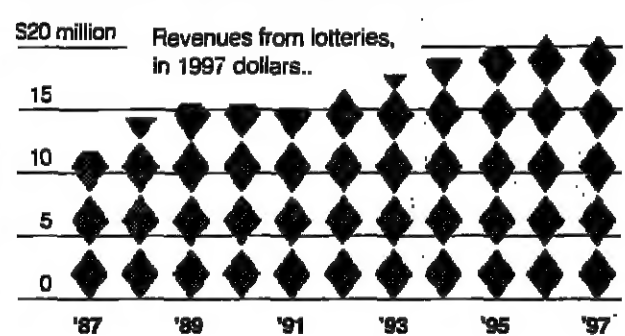
The Handle Has Tripled and ...



... Profits Have Soared, from Casinos ...



... to Lotto Games and Lotteries.



But Bankruptcies Are Up Too.

Bankruptcy levels near active gambling are higher than average. Here are the levels for Las Vegas, Atlantic City and the county in Tennessee close to Mississippi's riverboat casinos compared to the state and national averages, in bankruptcy filings per 100,000 residents for the 12 months ended in June 1998.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------|
| NEVADA | CLARK COUNTY | 8.91 |
| | STATE AVERAGE | 7.89 |
| NEW JERSEY | ATLANTIC COUNTY | 10.18 |
| | STATE AVERAGE | 5.37 |
| TENNESSEE | SHELBY COUNTY | 18.06 |
| | STATE AVERAGE | 8.95 |
| NATIONAL AVERAGE | | 6.00 |

Sources: Christiansen/Cummings, SMR Research Corporation

Peter C. T. Elsworth/The New York Times

Working Out With a One-Armed Bandit

By BRETT PULLEY

AMID the hundreds of exhibits at the recent World Gaming Congress and Exposition, no new products better summed up gambling's place in the American psyche than the "Pedal N' Play" cycle and the "Money Mill" treadmill.

What better way to get the heart pounding and the palms perspiring than to wager money while exercising? The stationary cycle and the treadmill both have slot machines attached, allowing casino customers to sweat and bet at the same time, or as they say in gambling parlance, to "stay in action," even while they're working out.

"People are going crazy about this," said Kathy Harris, president of the Fitness Gaming Corporation of Fairfax, Va., the company that created this latest way of efficiently separating gamblers from their money. Ms. Harris pointed out that the machines were wired so "you can't gamble unless you're peddling and you can't peddle unless you're gambling." The company's motto: "Put your heart into gaming."

To visit the gambling industry's September extravaganza, which drew more than 23,000 casino operators, entrepreneurs and government officials from over 100 countries, is to totally forget that legalized gambling itself is undergoing a re-examination by politicians and law-enforcement officials around the country.

The enthusiasm that caused the industry to mushroom throughout the 1980's and early 1990's is slowly giving way to trepidation, as local governments learn that casinos are no panacea for their economic infirmities.

Meanwhile, a Presidential commission is expected to release a report next year on gambling's impact on the nation. And casino operators themselves have even banded together to finance studies about compulsive gambling. The effort of the casino operators has as much to do with controlling the damage that full awareness of compulsive gambling could have on their industry's reputation as with any desire to expose the problem.

Still, studies continue to show that a majority of people support some form of legal betting. A recent survey by American Viewpoint, an opinion research company, and Gtech, the powerful lottery company, found that 7 out of 10 Americans believe that legalized gambling is an "acceptable form of entertainment."

And with one or more types of betting now legal in nearly every state, it is little wonder that the frontiers of wagering were on full display at the gambling exposition.

The cavernous Las Vegas Convention Center was filled with slot machines and table games, wildly colored casino floor carpeting and furniture, the latest technology in automated teller machines and coin counters and the gigantic fake trees, rocks and animatronics that have transformed the nation's gambling halls into alluring wonderlands.

Plenty of new games were displayed, and their enterprising creators used prize giveaways, free beer and seductive models to corner and cajole wide-eyed casino operators and government regulators into giving these new games a home in a casino. At the Digital 21 exhibit, which featured a new game of virtual Blackjack, a model attracted plenty of interest, although many of the players who crowded around her table were clearly having a difficult time paying attention to the cards.



One casino advertising and marketing company even beckoned delegates by packing its small booth with young women in tight clothing and posting a sign offering a drawing for "a free exotic dancer in the privacy of your room."

Among the celebrities at the convention was the pop star Michael Jackson, who has recently expressed an interest in investing in a Detroit casino. Priscilla Presley, his former mother-in-law, showed up to help promote a new Elvis slot machine, which allows gamblers to wager while they watch a video of The King himself in concert.

Within a few days after the convention ended, the Flamingo Hilton in Kansas City, Mo., became the first customer to order the Pedal N' Play and the Money Mill, according to Ms. Harris. Other potential customers are making plans to include the machines inside their casino hotel spas or create exercise areas on the casino floor itself.

And in Las Vegas, where slot machines can already be found at just about every two-bit bar and convenience store, Ms. Harris hopes to do what any health-conscious American entrepreneur would do: convince local health club owners to get gaming licenses and put her company's machines next to the weights, stair-climbers and aerobic exercise floors.

The Nation

Why Both Parties Wooed Black Voters This Year

By STEVEN A. HOLMES

WHAT a difference a decade makes. In the late 1980's and early 1990's, Democrats fretted that they had been soundly thrashed in three successive Presidential elections because the party had become too closely associated with black people, thus driving away white voters. To counter that impression, groups like the centrist Democratic Leadership Council, and its one-time chairman, Bill Clinton, wanted their votes but went out of their way not to be seen as pandering to blacks and even engaged in some public rebukes.

As a candidate in 1992, Mr. Clinton told blacks to take more "personal responsibility" for improving their lot and he chastised Sister Souljah, a black rap artist who once suggested that blacks should kill whites. As President, he told parishioners of a black church in Memphis that the high homicide rate among blacks would shame the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This year, blacks have become the Democrats' new best friends.

The party spent millions of dollars advertising on black radio. Congressional candidates were urged by party leaders to make as many appearances as possible in black neighborhoods. In the closing days of the campaign, the President chatted on the Tom Joyner Show, a nationally syndicated black radio program, spoke before a black church in Baltimore and appeared on Black Entertainment Television.

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson campaigned for black and white candidates and, perhaps more significantly, in black and white communities for Democratic candidates in 35 states — a sharp contrast for a man whose presence was once so troubling that even L. Douglas Wilder, a black candidate for governor of Virginia in 1989, did not want Mr. Jackson to campaign in his state.

The effort paid off.

In 1994 blacks made up 18 percent of Georgia's voters. This year they accounted for about 29 percent. In Maryland, blacks went from 12.5 percent of all voters in 1994 to 21 percent this year. In Michigan, the black share of the vote leaped from 13 percent four years ago to 19 percent. Black turnout also jumped dramatically in North Carolina, Alabama, South Carolina and Illinois, providing the margin of victory in several Senate and gubernatorial races — although an overwhelming black vote in Illinois could not save Carol Mosely Braun, the only black Senator.

'It's an Asset'

"There is no longer a problem with the Democratic Party being associated with black voters — none," said David Bositis, a senior fellow at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, which analyzes issues involving black people. "Before it was: 'We've got a problem. We've got a problem. We've got a problem. Now, it's no longer a problem. It's an asset.'"

The courtship of blacks this year did not stop with Democrats. In Florida, Jeb Bush, the Republican candidate for governor, boasted that his victory stemmed from

his ability to appeal to all groups — blacks included.

Will the wooing continue? Turnout this year was the lowest since 1942. And in low-turnout elections political strategists make special efforts to bring out their most loyal voters — blacks in the case of Democrats. It's an open question whether the Democrats' current embrace of blacks will be as tight in a Presidential election when appeals must be made to a broader electorate.

Where's Ours?

And while blacks tended to vote for Democratic moderates this time to defeat conservative Republicans, there is a question whether liberal black leaders, flush from the bravura performance of black voters, may try to push the party to the left once more — and, by doing so, once again turn off Southern whites and Northern blue-collar ethnics. Already, the results of last week's elections caused Mr. Jackson to contemplate challenging Vice President Al Gore for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

The journey from pariah to savior represents a remarkable shift in the way blacks are viewed by Democrats — and perhaps by the country as a whole.

Democratic strategists say the change stems from a realization that blacks remain the party's most loyal bloc of voters and that when turnout is low, as it was in 1994, Democrats suffer.

"In '94 it became clear that most Democrats can't win nowadays without doing well with African Americans," said Ron Lester, a Democratic pollster. "Some people had to learn that through hard knocks and bad experiences."

But the patching up of the fractious alliance did not take place in a vacuum.

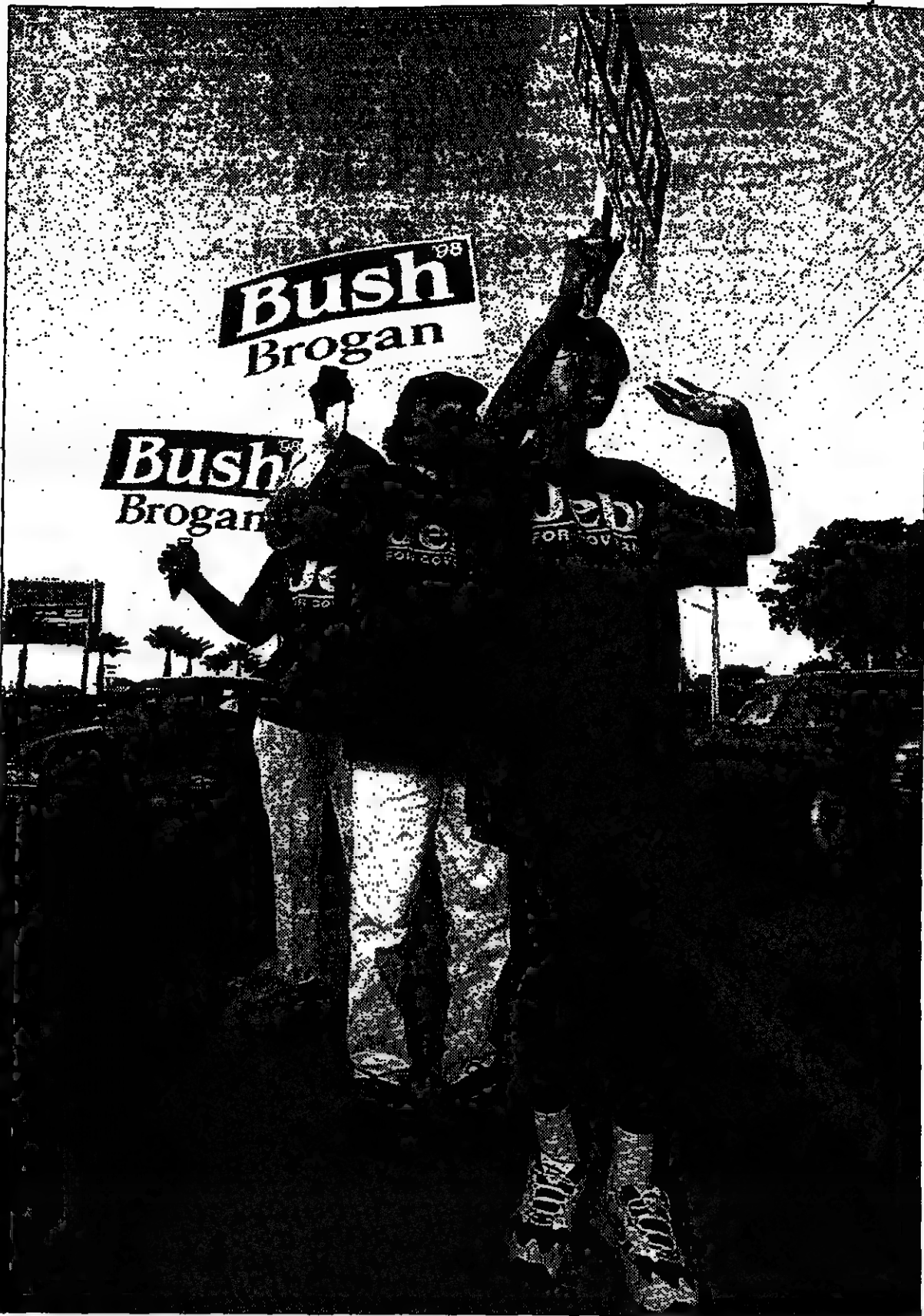
With crime rates falling, out-of-wedlock birth rates plummeting among black women and welfare rolls declining, many of the issues that — fairly or not — have been associated with blacks have lost potency. And although Washington State passed a ballot initiative banning race and gender preferences, the victories of Democrats there indicate that the issue of affirmative action didn't demonstrably turn whites against the party.

"If you think back to the 1980's, what was it that allowed race to work so much against the Democrats? It was a perception of people getting something for nothing," said Elaine C. Kamarck, a professor at the Kennedy School of Government and a former aide to Vice President Gore. "When you change the welfare system to a work system, you suddenly get rid of that."

Blacks now hold 38 seats in the House, a large enough bloc to convince the House Democratic Caucus that targeting black voters was a priority.

And Representative Charles B. Rangel of Harlem parlayed his position as the ranking Democrat on the Ways and Means Committee to raise more than \$1 million for his own campaign, mainly from corporate political action committees. He then donated \$100,000 to the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and sprinkled at least another \$30,000 into the coffers of Democratic candidates around the country. Mr. Rangel also raised another \$1.2 million for the congressional campaign committee.

Once the decision was made to target black voters,



Campaigning for Jeb Bush, the Republican candidate for governor of Florida, in a Democratic stronghold.

Democrats found a receptive audience. Polls conducted by Mr. Lester and the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies showed that blacks were becoming even more partisan than they had been in the past — turned off by Republican oratory and policies and turned on by their improving economic lot, for which they gave President Clinton credit. Once a message was delivered

to black voters that Republicans were trying to impeach and remove the President, blacks turned on the Republicans with a vengeance.

"The real lesson is that black people will vote," said Mr. Lester. "If you give them a reason to and make the effort to get the vote out, you can make a difference. We know how to do this."

Grand Old Problem

G.O.P. Middle Looks for an Edge

Continued from Page 9

gious conservatives — is also one of its greatest strengths. These voters are among the most active and involved in state party organizations, and their support is essential for Republicans who want to win their party's Presidential nomination. Republicans have run up against the old adage: There is no such thing as a raging moderate. The point is that it is harder to motivate people from the middle.

Complicating the matter further, many Republicans contend that the party's problem is that it has not been conservative enough. Newt Gingrich's stunning decision on Friday to step down as Speaker of the House came after his fellow Republicans blamed him for the showing on Tuesday. They believe that, if anything, he has been too cozy with moderates.

And the parallel with the Democrats is not entirely apt. The Democratic left gradually took over a party in power, leaving a potent, if often frustrated, moderate group in state houses (like Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas) and in Congress. Republicans, by contrast, gained power from the ideological right, first in the White House with President Reagan, then in Congress through Mr. Gingrich. Moderates were few, and they were harshly pushed aside, so there is much less on which to build.

The remedy for Republicans might be, of all things, for them to find a leader like Mr. Clinton (a former head of the Democratic Leadership Council) who can disentangle the party from the demands of its conservative wing.

Until now, at least, those who have tried to move toward the center have found it difficult. Gov. Bill Graves of Kansas, for one, had a scare last August when David Miller stepped down as chairman of the state Republican Party and tried to oust him in a primary, accusing him of not being conservative enough. "I'm not tooting my own horn," the Governor said. "But we pulled in 73 percent in the primary and got 73 percent in the general election. You have to ask yourself: What was the state party chairman thinking?"

Rethinking Martyrdom

Now, Mr. Graves asks: "How badly do we want to win the Presidency? And are we willing to nominate a more centrist candidate who can win? Or is our goal to martyr our party over some principles that a good portion of our party may not believe in?" Yet conservative leaders argue that the

election was not a repudiation of their agenda. They blame the losses on the lack of an issue-based Republican message and a preoccupation with the Clinton scandal. Gary Bauer, president of the Family Research Council, said the party not only surrendered economic issues to Democrats but "seemed to cave in on social issues and values issues, and the sanctity of human life."

Many Republicans contend that voters do not mind conservatism, and some moderate voters can tolerate candidates who oppose abortion. But they are put off by politicians who appear to be trying to impose a moral agenda.

And part of the difficulty in the campaign this year may not have been that the Republicans lacked issues to talk about, but that in their zeal to focus on scandal they allowed Democrats to define them as extremists.

The Fabulous Bush Boys

That is why many party leaders are citing as an example the brothers Bush: Gov. George W. Bush of Texas, who easily won re-election, and his brother, Jeb, who was elected Governor of Florida. Both oppose abortion, for example, but they couch their conservative stands in ways that do not threaten those who are not hard-core Republicans.

Representative David Dreier, a California Republican and longtime friend of the Texas Governor, said they chatted the day after the election about the need for leadership modeled after the optimistic approach of Mr. Reagan. "George Bush could hardly be called a liberal or a moderate — he's a conservative," Mr. Dreier said. "Yet he does so in such an upbeat, positive, happy way. That's really what I see as necessary for the Republican Party."

As he was showered with balloons and confetti last week, Governor Bush, who did strikingly well with blacks, women and Hispanic voters, sounded what could be a theme for a Presidential quest: "Tonight's resounding victory says a leader who is compassionate and conservative can erase the gender gap and open the doors of the Republican Party to new faces, new voices."

Mr. Bush is far from the only Republican who thinks he or she can run for national office by widening the appeal beyond social conservatives. After a failed run for the Republican nomination in 1996, Governor Wilson, who supports abortion rights, said the outcome on Tuesday made him even more tempted to try again. "The results indicated that people who have pretty much my views and record did well," he said.

For the party to recover, the feuding factions may not have to compromise. But they will have to learn to coexist — perhaps even with Democrats — something that is anathema to many.

There is one great incentive. "A near death experience," Mr. Duberstein said, "has the tendency to focus the mind."

The Price of a Vote

Two headlines collided in the midterm elections: More money than ever was raised by Congressional candidates; voter turnout was the lowest since 1942.

Since 1988, when Congressional candidates raised \$358 million and 50 percent of all voters went to the polls, money and voter participation rates have been moving in opposite directions.

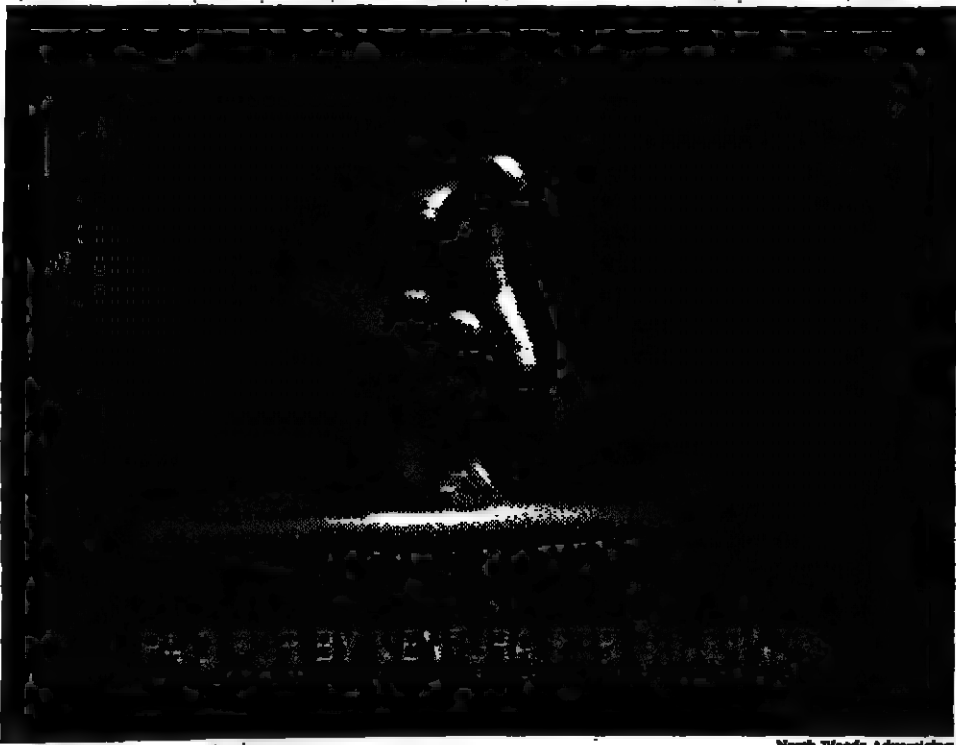
By last week's elections, House and Senate candidates raised a combined total of more than \$571 million, but only 36 percent of voters turned out Tuesday. Which means that, generally, the amount spent on each vote keeps climbing. One theory, among many, is that, intentionally or not, negative campaign advertising turns off voters.

LESLIE WAYNE



Sources: Federal Election Commission; Committee for the Study of the American Electorate

The New York Times



Jesse (The Thinker) Ventura, with apologies to Rodin.

Jesse the Body, Jesse the Mind, Jesse the Governor

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. No one campaign ad, Jesse Ventura was only gym shorts and posed as Rodin's "The Thinker." In another, a Jesse Ventura action figure battled Evil Special Interest Man.

Somehow, it worked. Now Jesse (The Body) Ventura, the former pro wrestler, suburban mayor, movie actor and talk radio shock jock, is the next Governor of Minnesota, having beaten two respected political players, Hubert H. Humphrey 3d, the state's Attorney General, and Norm Coleman, the Mayor of St. Paul.

Minnesota voters may have thought that a man who could put the likes of Hulk Hogan in a headlock would be able to bust through legislative gridlock in a heartbeat. They liked his straight-talking style, his charisma and his refusal to be marginalized by the mainstream candidates.

Or maybe they just have a sense of humor.

Mr. Ventura's commercials were surely the oddest and funniest in a campaign sea-



son better known for snarling attack ads. One Ventura spot features a young boy confronting a slick lobbyist with a Jesse action figure. The boy deepens his voice and announces, "I don't want your stupid money."

The Rodin commercial is almost silly: With a soprano warbling an aria in the background, Mr. Ventura's near-naked body is explored from nearly every angle by the camera. Jesse the Sensitive Sphinx.

Then he winks. Now, even the White House has taken notice of Mr. Ventura's political magic. "I think that you're going to have a lot of politicians spending time in the gyms now," President Clinton said.

And John Podesta, the White House Chief of Staff, had this to say: "I've decided to change my nickname from Skipper to John (The Body) Podesta."

That should be fine because Mr. Ventura now wants to be known as The Mind.

PAM BELLUCK

The World

How Nations Run: Disasters as a Guide

By LARRY ROHTER

A MANAGUA, Nicaragua
NATURAL disaster as terrible as Hurricane Mitch, which killed more than 10,000 people in Central America in the past two weeks and left nearly a million more homeless, teaches a lot about the way a society does or does not work. Some institutions and individuals rise to the occasion; others topple like palm trees in the wind. But the nations of the region always seem to respond in ways that illuminate their history and character.

Nicaragua, for instance, is still grappling with many of the same problems it could not resolve in the 1980's, when the Sandinista National Liberation Front was trying to fend off American-backed contra rebels in a bloody civil war. In that polarized political climate, the relief effort here last week was hampered by petty partisan squabbling; the conservative Government and the Sandinistas, who are now in opposition, even disagreed over whether it would be more appropriate to declare a "national disaster" or a "state of emergency."

As people in Posoltega, where more than 1,500 people died in mudslides, waited for help alongside other devastated towns, the two camps jockeyed for control of the distribution of food and medicine — and the political benefits to come with that.

By late in the week, with popular discontent rising, the damage caused by the partisanship seemed to impress even some politicians. President Arnoldo Alemán said he would cede the supervision of relief activities to the Roman Catholic Church, while Gen. Joaquín Cuadra, the Sandinista who commands the armed forces, belatedly called for national unity.

Islands in Peril

Another recent storm, Hurricane Georges, provided insights that are at least as striking in September. Faced with the threat of 135-mile-per-hour winds, three Caribbean island societies that have adopted radically different social and political models, even though they were all once Spanish colonies, responded in conspicuously different ways.

In Puerto Rico, an American possession, the government leaped into action as soon as the first hurricane watch was issued. Televi-

sion stations repeatedly broadcast warnings to stay indoors and put up hurricane shutters, provided advice on stockpiling food and water, and showed footage of past storms to remind the island's 3.5 million residents of what they might face. As soon as Georges passed, utility repair crews were out restoring service and Federal Emergency Management Agency teams were preparing reports and sending money.

How Not to Prepare

Next door in the Dominican Republic, disorganization was the watchword. Newspapers there have complained that the civil defense chief, Elpidio Baez, failed to issue storm warnings because he did not want to alarm people. He denies that, but television and radio stations continued to broadcast soap operas and merengue competitions until just before the storm struck. Some people who went to hurricane shelters found them closed and were turned away by soldiers.

There are even reports that officials opened a dam on the verge of buckling without advising residents living downstream, some of whom later drowned. The Government denies those accounts, but an official of the United States Agency for International Development said it was clear that overall, "when the thing hit, they were totally unprepared to respond."

The hurricane then moved on to Cuba, which, true to form for a militarized totalitarian state, responded as if the storm were an enemy to be vanquished. President Fidel Castro instructed residents of affected zones to evacuate, an order that was enforced by the military and local security watchdogs and may have saved many lives. Afterward, the Communist Party newspaper Granma praised Cubans for their "revolutionary discipline" and successful "combat" against Georges, whose "destructive force" amounted to "a kind of invasion."

Throughout the Caribbean basin, though, there is also a common thread. Just as it seems that hurricanes striking the United States inevitably gravitate toward trailer parks, here the poorest are also the most vulnerable and seem to suffer the most, regardless of who governs. "We've lived through earthquakes, a pair of civil wars, volcanic eruptions, tidal waves and now this, all in the last 25 years," said María Lourdes Rodríguez, a peasant who lives north of here. "When is God going to take pity on us?"

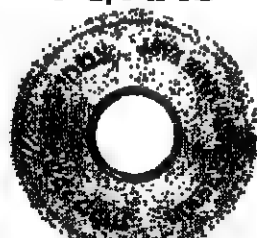


Rivalries in Nicaragua made it harder to respond to Hurricane Mitch, whose destruction was evident on what had been a farm in Honduras (top). In Nicaragua, people huddled for shelter near Lake Managua, (bottom left), and a body decomposed in Posoltega.

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Amnesty II

Continued from Page 9

weekly newsletter, Southern Africa Report, says a new amnesty proposal could come up during the February session of Parliament, in time to remove the issue from next year's election campaigns. "You simply can't have this country torn apart by prosecutions," he says. "Everybody is going to be howling for an amnesty. They already are."

Even as Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the commission's chairman, delivered the report, he seemed to be anticipating a push for a new amnesty and arguing against it. He said such a move would be highly unfair to those who came forward. He suggested instead that there be a two-year time limit, after which anyone not indicted would in effect get amnesty.

To be sure, there will be opposition to any proposals to limit prosecutions. More than a dozen human rights and victims advocacy groups have already banded together to condemn such proposals as "unconscionable."

The idea for a Truth Commission emerged as a compromise from the long negotiations that brought about South Africa's peaceful transition from a white supremacist state to a non-racial democracy. During the talks, the white National Party government pushed for a blanket amnesty, and the A.N.C. refused.

In the end, only about 250 former police officers came forward, most of them foot soldiers. And only two high National Party officials, former Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and Police Commissioner Johan van der Merwe, confessed to roles in ordering bombings.

In its report, the commission called the apartheid state the "primary perpetrator" of gross human rights violations and held such high ranking former officials as former President P. W. Botha, his former army chief, Georg Meiring, and the former intelligence chief, Niel Barnard, responsible. These men, and others of lower rank, have not applied for amnesty.

For the A.N.C., the most embarrassing prospect is the possible prosecution of President Mandela's former wife, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, who is accused in the report of taking part in a number of assaults and abductions. Lesser known officials could face charges too. The A.N.C. is held responsible for at least 76 deaths in KwaZulu/Natal.

The A.N.C.'s problems are further complicated by its efforts to make peace with the largely Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party. Virtually no one from that party came forward to ask for amnesty. Yet the report found that Inkatha, working with the white Government, was responsible for widespread slaughter in KwaZulu/Natal and in the townships around Johannesburg.

Inkatha's leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and many key party officials stand accused of fomenting a wide range of abuses. But prosecuting Chief Buthelezi could lead to new warfare in KwaZulu.

Part of the reluctance to go forward with prosecutions may be the result of still another factor: The judicial system is already overwhelmed with rising crime and the evidence from the apartheid era is old. So why spend the time and the money?

At the moment, only one political party is opposed to any form of new amnesty — the tiny but influential Democratic Party, a liberal group that was not involved in the violence. Its head, Tony Leon, says a new amnesty would only prove that "the more thuglike your behavior, the more you get away with." But he concedes that his is a lonely voice. "At this point," he says, "there is little enthusiasm for anything but closing the book on the past."

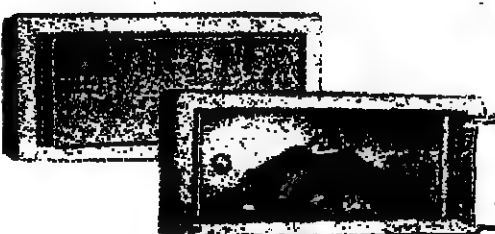
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סכנה מן האש

Executive Cash Machine: How the System Inflates Pay

By ADAM BRYANT

BACK in 1993, Reuben Mark, chief executive of Colgate-Palmolive, received two million stock options in addition to his salary and bonus. Colgate's board explained that the huge grant was the only one Mr. Mark would receive until 1998.

But in 1996, Colgate hired two consulting firms, Towers Perrin and Hewitt Associates, to review the company's executive-compensation plans. The consultants found that Mr. Mark's long-term incentive package had fallen "significantly below the median" of companies they used for comparison. So in 1997, a year early, the board granted him 2.6 million more options — a package it promised would have to last Mr. Mark through 2003.

In the grand scheme of things, giving Colgate's chief a new grant of stock options a year early is not such a big deal.

Sure, his total compensation went up 83.5 percent annually, on average, over the last four years, while Colgate's total returns rose an average of 25.9 percent. But the company has outperformed the market, and the stock must keep rising for Mr. Mark to exercise his options at a profit. Yet this and hundreds of other examples, each with their own twists, help illustrate how hard corporate America works to make sure that few chief executives feel underpaid.

Through an elaborate process fraught with conflicts of interest and marred by questionable assumptions, executive pay is often set with methods imported from Lake Wobegon, Garrison Keillor's imaginary place where "all the children are above average."

The issue is not just the hundred-million-dollar payouts that a few chief executives collect by reaping the rewards of huge stock-option grants. Nor is it simply that some executives whose companies do poorly are nonetheless richly rewarded.

Rather, an examination of the interplay among chief executives, corporate directors and the consultants who help set pay levels calls into question whether "pay for performance" — the mantra of executive compensation for the last two decades — has been distorted almost beyond recognition by the maneuvering that goes on behind closed boardroom doors.

Performance certainly plays a role in executive compensation. But other forces conspire to escalate pay beyond anything performance strictly justifies.

By setting their chief executives' pay above the median of whatever peer group of companies they choose for comparison, boards constantly ratchet up the compensation base line. If all companies in the peer group aim to pay in the top quarter of the group, for example, that level will just keep rising.

Top executives, rather than the board of directors, typically control the hiring and firing of consultants who are brought in to design pay packages.

Many directors who sit on their board's compensation committees have ties to management that raise doubts about their independence and objectivity.

Boards justify raises by saying they have to pay their chief executives "competitively" in order to retain them, even if those executives are underperforming.

Such mechanisms work against anyone trying to set compensation at appropriate levels, said Robin A. Ferracane, president of SCA Consulting, a compensation and management consulting firm based in Los Angeles.

"Those forces tend to loom large and lead to abuses," she said. "And when you have a whole string of

them, shareholders haven't gained a thing. Instead, they've paid out a ton of money to keep people around who are underperforming."

The confluence of all these forces is reflected in a study conducted by The New York Times by Graef Crystal, who edits a San Diego-based newsletter on executive compensation.

Mr. Crystal looked at the performance of 383 large companies where the same chief executive was in office from 1993 to 1997. An investor who put \$100 in those companies at the end of 1993 would have had \$202.10 four years later, for an annual return of 19.2 percent. If the pay of the companies' chiefs tracked that performance, their average compensation would roughly have doubled, from \$2.78 million in 1993 to about \$6 million four years later.

In fact, according to Mr. Crystal's analysis, the executives' pay climbed 38.1 percent a year, to an average of \$10.1 million.

Who is to blame for this gap between pay and performance? Experts in both pay and corporate governance say that there is no single culprit — except, perhaps, unchecked human nature.

"It's not evil of management to seek the highest possible pay package they can, because we all try to maximize our value," said Charles M. Elson, a professor at the Stetson University College of Law in St. Petersburg, Fla., and a director of three public companies. "And it's not evil for a compensation consultant to have an affinity for management."

Nor is it evil for a director to feel an affinity for the C.E.O. who appointed them. But it's a process that creates a one-sided result."

To be sure, pay consultants say many directors have become more vigilant in recent years, in part because rich compensation packages have often come under sharp attack by large shareholders, including pension funds.

"The amount of backbone and independence has increased by several orders of magnitude," said Ira T. Kay, global practice director for compensation consulting in the New York office of Watson Wyatt Worldwide. Still, with the average chief executive's pay rising twice as fast as performance over the last four years, such vigilance has not forged a very strong link between pay and corporate success.

Beyond Peer?
Running a large corporation requires a rare set of skills. So it is perhaps understandable that directors would consider their chief executive an above-average boss worthy of above-average compensation.

But many companies set their executives' pay by looking at what similar companies pay their executives. And if they all are trying to make their chiefs feel special — say, by paying them above their peer group's scale — that can create powerful updrafts for executive compensation.

"There is a huge problem with those surveys," said Jay W. Lorsch, a Harvard Business School professor who specializes in corporate board issues. "They are self-fulfilling prophecies. There is a ratcheting effect."

Many companies in the Dow Jones

Industrial average, for instance, pledge to keep their executives' pay well above the median of their respective peer groups.

Phillip Morris's goal is to compensate its executives in the "upper quadrant" of its peer group. The same goes for Coca-Cola, while I.B.M. shoots for the 75th percentile. American Express uses the third quartile as its reference point.

It is not just Dow Industrial companies that aim to compensate their executives at levels comparable to that of their peers. GTE's proxy states that the company's philosophy is to be 10 percent to 15 percent above "a median grant posture" of its comparison group of companies for long-term incentive pay. From 1993 to 1997, the company's stock rose at an average rate of 17.8 percent a year; the pay of Charles R. Lee, GTE's chief executive, rose an average of 75.8 percent a year, to \$13.35 million from \$2.15 million. Mr. Lee received a new grant of stock options every year from 1993 to 1997, for a total of more than one million options.

"The bulk of the chairman's compensation is in long-term incentives that are directly tied to shareholder value," a GTE spokeswoman said.

Options sometimes are used to motivate underperforming executives, and at other times to reward good past performance. But options issued simply to keep an executive apace with his peer group may have nothing to do with his performance.

Many companies first settle on an executive's compensation and then determine what performance will be expected of him, said Jean Head Sisco, a member of the compensation committees of Textron, Nieman Marcus, and Chiquita Brands International.

"The status quo should not allow a person to reach the upper percentiles," said Ms. Sisco, who is also a partner in Sisco Associates, a management consulting firm based in Washington. "But it is obvious that at certain companies, that is allowed to happen. Just studying the proxies tells you that."

The Friendly Consultant

When a company's directors want independent expertise as they design their executives' pay packages, they rely on the advice of a small coterie of compensation consultants.

The problem is that the selection and hiring of the consultants is typically controlled by management itself. If the executives do not like the opinions offered by their consultants, they can easily replace them with others more willing to act as their advocates before the board of directors.

In interviews with 10 consultants, estimates of the number of their prospective clients who have shopped this way for more accommodating advice ranged from 5 percent to 20 percent. A more pliant consultant can, for example, select a more favorable group of peer companies on which to base a chief executive's recommended pay. Or the consultant can make adjustments that benefit the executive in the various parts of a pay package, including salary, bonus, restricted stock and many forms of long-term incentive compensation.

"Unfortunately, anything can be justified in executive compensation, because there are so many rules to the game," said Judith Fischer, publisher of Executive Compensation Reports, a newsletter.

Experts in the field of corporate governance generally agree that it is a mistake to leave management in charge of hiring compensation consultants. Instead, they say, it should be the responsibility of the board's compensation committee.

"It's the relationship that counts," said Ira M. Millstein, a partner at the New York law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges who advises many boards on governance principles. "Who do you report to? Who hires you? Who fires you? My answer to all three is that it should be the compensation committee."

It would be unusual, of course, for a company to report in its annual proxy statement that it had left the selection of its compensation consultant to top management. But many consultants say boards often defer to management's advice on which firm to hire. And some large companies acknowledge that their compensation committees follow the lead of management on pay matters.

In the 1997 proxy for Goodyear Tire and Rubber, for example, the compensation committee said it "met with the chief executive officer to receive his recommendations regarding 1997 adjustments" of top executives. It added that it relied principally on surveys to set pay levels, but also considered the chief executive's recommendations "on certain subjective factors, including his evaluation of the performance of each executive officer, the performance of the company and general economic and competitive conditions."

A Goodyear spokesman said that the chief executive did not make recommendations regarding his own compensation, and that his guidance on his aides' compensation did not influence board decisions on his pay. At other companies, like Cummins Engine, the process is more clearly

The New Math of Executive Pay

"Pay for performance" is the mantra of executive compensation. But at many companies, other factors may be helping to determine the chief executive's pay. GTE's stock underperformed the market from the end of 1993 through 1997, a period in which the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index rose 108 percent. Colgate-Palmolive's stock slightly outperformed the market and MBNA's solidly outperformed. Yet at each company, the chief executive's pay soared.

Pay and performance are indexed to show percentage change from year-end 1993. The data were calculated by Graef Crystal, a San Diego-based compensation expert, for The New York Times.



*Includes salary, bonus, value of restricted stock grant on date of grant, paper profits year to year on stock options, actual profits from exercised stock options, payouts under other long-term incentive plans and miscellaneous compensation. Figures do not include present value of stock options on date of grant. †Stock price and reinvested dividends, adjusted for splits.

driven by directors on the compensation committee.

"We've thought of compensation consultants rather like auditors," said Hanna Holborn Gray, the retired president of the University of Chicago who has been the chairwoman of Cummins' compensation committee for six years. "We need an independent perspective."

Too Close for Comfort?

Who serves on the compensation committee is as important as where the committee gets its advice.

In a 1993 report, the National Association of Corporate Directors wrote that compensation committees "should be made up exclusively of independent outside directors selected by the outside directors and approved by the whole board."

The commission's rationale? "Achieving both the appearance and the reality of independence demands no less," the report said.

Despite this unequivocal recommendation, however, many compensation committees have members who at least have the potential to engage in mutual back-scratching with the chief executive.

Directorship, a consulting firm in Greenwich, Conn., said 67 of the 839 large public companies in its data base have current or former executives of the company on the compensation committee. And at 12 of those 67, the committee's chairman is a current or former executive. Among them is Occidental Petroleum, which has been criticized by institutional investors over the \$95 million paid last year to its chief executive, Ray R. Irani, to replace his old contract with a new one.

A separate study of 1,187 companies by the Investor Responsibility Research Center, based in Washington, found that 522 directors on compensation committees had affiliations — as suppliers or former employees — that called into question

their independence.

One example is the MBNA Corporation of Wilmington, Del., one of the nation's leading issuers of credit cards. The chairman of its compensation committee is James H. Berick, whose law firm provides services to MBNA. Also on the committee is Benjamin R. Civiletti, the United States Attorney General from 1979 to 1981, who is now chairman of another law firm that counts MBNA among its clients.

From 1993 to 1997, MBNA was an impressive stock-market performer, returning 49.5 percent a year, on average. But total compensation for Alfred Lerner, the company's chairman and chief executive, rose at roughly three times that rate — an average of 147 percent a year.

In an interview, Mr. Berick said his firm bills MBNA for less than \$30,000 worth of services a year. Mr. Berick, who was a college roommate of Mr. Lerner's, said that MBNA shareholders were satisfied and that he considered himself independent.

"The facts are important, and not the perception or appearances," he added. Mr. Civiletti also said that the volume of legal work his firm did for MBNA was incidental and that he, too, considered himself independent. "I think substance is much more important than possible appearance," he said.

A Foot Out the Door

One common justification used by companies for above-average compensation is that "competitive" pay packages are necessary to retain top executives — even underperformers — who might otherwise be tempted by a better offer to leave.

The laws of supply and demand are certainly at work when a chief executive at one company is actively courted by another company. Many such executives will hire the likes of Joseph E. Bacheider, a New York lawyer who has negotiated on behalf

MBNA

Credit card issuer based in Wilmington, Del.

Dec. 31, 1993 Dec. 31, 1997 Percentage change 1993-1997

Stock price \$31.1975 \$73.6 +136%

CEO's pay \$130.5 \$152.775 +17%

(Millions)

2,500%

1,500%

1,000%

500%

0%

1993 1994 1995 1996 1997

Performance

Pay

A question of independence

Alfred Lerner, MBNA's chief executive, has produced above-average returns for shareholders. But his compensation has risen far faster than MBNA's stock.

Two members of MBNA's compensation committee work for law firms that provide services to the company — including the committee's chairman, who was Mr. Lerner's college roommate.

James H. Berick

Benjamin R. Civiletti

Alfred Lerner

Slowing the Money Train

By ADAM BRYANT

WHAT will slow the rise in executive pay?

A bear market would help, many experts say, because shareholders would start voting down management plans for issuing shares to reward top executives and other employees. Even now, votes against such proposals are rising.

Generally, experts say, the key is for directors to act more like shareholders. Charles M. Elson, a Stetson College law professor who serves on three corporate boards, argued that three corporate nominees should be required to buy a considerable amount of company stock — say, \$100,000 worth — before joining a board and then be compensated with stock for their services.

Then, Mr. Elson said, directors will consider the company's money their own and be more likely to resist a chief executive who wants an unreasonably large share of it.

"That way, any penny that is overpaid comes out of the director's pocket as opposed to some vague force known as the company," he said.

The amounts involved, he acknowledged,

edged, may amount to no more than pennies a share, but people nevertheless have a keen sense of what is rightfully theirs.

Mr. Elson has seen the process work first-hand. When he was appointed a director of the Sunbeam Corporation in 1996, he was required to invest \$100,000 of his own money to buy 5,000 shares in the company. Indeed, Mr. Elson had advised Albert J. Dunlap, then Sunbeam's chief executive, to impose the requirement on all his directors.

With the additional compensation he received in Sunbeam stock in subsequent years, the total value of Mr. Elson's holdings rose to \$250,000. But after the company foundered earlier this year under Mr. Dunlap's leadership, the value of Mr. Elson's holdings fell steeply, to less than \$50,000 at one point.

And it was Mr. Elson who, in June, made the motion to the Sunbeam board to remove Mr. Dunlap. The Sunbeam board has been widely reported to be fighting with Mr. Dunlap over his severance pay.

"Having a large equity stake in a company," Mr. Elson said, "really wakes you up."

The New York Times

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A War for the Republican Future

The modern Republican Party seems to define itself through revolution. In 1980, Ronald Reagan overthrew the bland, accommodating style of the party's old guard, and then Newt Gingrich stormed the Capitol in 1994. Now that Mr. Gingrich has been booted, the House Republicans have to decide whether the 1998 election dictated that yet another fundamental shift is in order. The religious right says Mr. Gingrich erred by going soft. Yet the voters picked moderate Republican governors as the party's stars of the future. It promises to be a gory sorting out.

Representative Steve Largent, one of the first to challenge the Gingrich leadership team, wants a return to the "Reagan agenda" that he says the public never abandoned. But Representative Robert Livingston, whose public opposition to the Speaker signaled an anti-Gingrich stampede, proclaimed the newly revolutionary idea of conciliation toward the opposition. In announcing his challenge, Mr. Livingston spoke of replacing the "revolutionizing" talents of the Speaker with his own supposed talents at day-to-day governing. He seemed to be echoing the record of those Republican governors who have embraced pragmatism, ideological flexibility and impatience with litmus-test social issues.

From Gov. George Bush in Texas to Gov. George Pataki in New York, these Republicans rejected the "government is the problem" mantra of old. They embraced the use of public resources for children's health, schools, the environment and job placement for the poor. They carefully avoided Mr. Gingrich's divisive, wedge-driving rhetoric.

But Mr. Livingston's words cannot necessarily be taken at face value. He can be viewed as a moderate only in the context of the rigid conviction politics perfected by Mr. Gingrich and mimicked on the Senate side by the majority leader, Trent Lott.

There will be a civil war in the House Republican conference. Northeastern moderates may play a key balancing role, as they did in preserving Mr. Gingrich against his own disaffected rebels in the 1998 budget fight. But most House Republicans are hard-liners who still want to slash government and taxes, stop abortions and lift environmental laws — but do it with a friendlier face. Mr. Gingrich says a handful of "cannibals" blackmailed him into resigning. He can take comfort knowing that they did not think him wrong, just loud, clumsy and irresolute.

This militant faction is in denial about the successes forged by Republican gubernatorial candidates like Mr. Bush of Texas, who clearly intends to test his brand of Republicanism in the next Presidential race. Like Governor Bush, the Republicans returned to the statehouses last week cut taxes when they could. But they also did things like balancing economic growth and environmental protection. Some Republican-led states enacted laws protecting patients against arbitrary moves by health-maintenance organizations, at a time when the Gingrich team walked away from the issue. Governors Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin and John Engler of Michigan prevailed as welfare reformers while actually spending more on day care and training to insure that welfare recipients do not just get dropped from the rolls but find jobs.

Mr. Bush, Mr. Pataki and their colleagues in other statehouses have brought back into the Republican mainstream the idea that while government may not be the whole solution, it is not the enemy either. As they choose their next Speaker, the Republicans in Washington ought to listen. But the ghosts of the Gingrich revolution will be strong in the House, and it will probably take another election to show the hard-liners that being mean does not sell so well anymore.

Midterm Elections: A Vote for Moderation?

To the Editor:
Re "Counting Winners and Losers" (editorial, Nov. 5): For me, a 33-year-old Democrat, Tuesday's election was a watershed. For the first time since I began voting in 1984, I believe there is hope for a progressive national agenda.

Republican gains during the past decade were not brought about because Americans overwhelmingly embraced policies like those of the Contract With America, but because Republicans successfully shaped public debate and inhibited turnout of their opposition.

Provided with the Clinton scandal, Republican leaders believed that they would again be able to keep voters at home. Unfortunately, the voters who stayed at home were from their own party. The results of Tuesday's election may not suggest a major shift in ideology, but they do signal something that strikes fear in the heart of every right-wing extremist: Democrats with hope.

BRADEN MICHAELS
New York, Nov. 5, 1998

Social Conservatism?

To the Editor:
David Frum ("Hangman, Spare That Ideology," Op-Ed, Nov. 6) urges Republicans to stick to their socially conservative agenda.

But Mr. Frum's worry that liberals will "dangerously expand the powers of the state and drastically infringe on the rights of parents to determine how their children will be educated" does not take into consideration that it is conservatives who try to force religious worship into public schools.

There can be no higher ethical or moral ideal than to save human life. But the Republican party consistently works to deny expanding health care. Senators Bob Dole and Phil Gramm played major roles in stopping health care reform several years ago. Today, there are more than 40 million Americans who need health insurance.

LOUIS KALKOW
Somerville, Mass., Nov. 6, 1998

Veto Prevention

To the Editor:
Re "Counting Winners and Losers" (editorial, Nov. 5): It seems that the media, pollsters and pundits missed the message of this election: Democrats can add. The Democrats knew that if enough Republicans were elected, the G.O.P. could gain a veto-proof majority in Congress. Thus, a bill gutting environmental protections or education could easily have made it through Congress.

It was this chilling prospect that galvanized individual Democratic voters and sent them to the polls.

LIBBY HILL
Evanston, Ill., Nov. 6, 1998

Impeachment's Status

To the Editor:
So Henry J. Hyde asserts that the election did not change the Constitution and that impeachment hearings must continue (front page, Nov. 5). I would prefer to see an overhaul of campaign finance laws, a restructuring of Social Security, an improvement in education, and an end to partisan politics and the further waste of taxpayers' dollars.

Please, end the impeachment hearings, fire Kenneth W. Starr and find some way to return to the American people the \$40 million wasted on Mr. Starr's investigation of the President.

TIMOTHY DOYLE
New York, Nov. 5, 1998

A Moral Question

To the Editor:
Raymond Strother ("The Southern Surprise," Op-Ed, Nov. 5) sug-

gests that Republicans' pushing of morality as an issue is what sank the party in this election. I disagree. It was Republicans' equating of morality with sexual behavior.

Most Americans realize that morality is a much broader concept, and that sexual behavior is not the only action upon which a politician's morality should be assessed.

Actions that are also indicative of one's morals include being in the pockets of big-money lobbyists; denigrating people because of their race, sexual orientation or religious beliefs; using taxpayer money to pursue political vendettas; dismembering environmental policies, and spending money on "pork" rather than pressing social needs.

JENNY E. TESAR
Bethel, Conn., Nov. 5, 1998

Campaign Reform

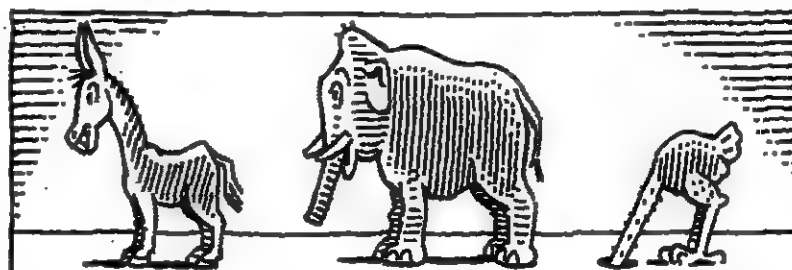
To the Editor:
In his assessment of Republican setbacks in Tuesday's election, Senator Trent Lott said the party needs "to listen more to the people" (front page, Nov. 5).

What a novel idea for today's Republican Party.

If Mr. Lott is really interested in listening to the people, he can start by making meaningful campaign finance reform the top priority in Congress. The average American citizen is disgusted with politicians' willingness to be "bought" by special-interest groups.

CRAIG BUTLER
Washington, Nov. 5, 1998

The writer is executive director, Fund for New Priorities in America.



Ken Barbee

Blaming the Right

To the Editor:
Re "G.O.P. in Scramble Over Blame for Poor Showing at the Polls" (front page, Nov. 5):

Please do not use the conservative right wing as a scapegoat. Republicans lost because they have no backbone. They speak out privately, but as a party, they have no conviction. They have no leader. They have no uniform voice. They are fragmented.

The conservative right wing stands for life, local government control, good education, less government spending and other issues that restore worth, value and respect to the people, not to government. The Republicans abandoned these issues and lost. Blame them for leaving the foundation of decent moral leadership; don't blame the conservative right wing.

KEN BABINGTON
Cocoa Beach, Fla., Nov. 5, 1998

Starr's Role

To the Editor:
William Safire aptly stated how candidates in the recent election should have declared their several positions: "If elected, I will vote to impeach that hairsplitting perjurer" or, contrariwise, "those Bible-thumping hypocrites will throw out Bill Clinton over my dead body" (column, Sept. 21).

It seems to me that voters have decided the issue (front page, Nov. 5). So Kenneth Starr should throw in the towel before the extent to which he has sold his soul to those "Bible-thumping hypocrites" becomes more apparent.

WHITMAN KNAPP
New York, Nov. 5, 1998

The writer is a senior United States District Court judge.

Broken Record

To the Editor:
Re "Without a New Tune to Whistle, G.O.P. Kept Humming 'Scan-

dal" (front page, Nov. 5):

Republicans had more than a tune to whistle. They had a symphony for which they couldn't find a score. A platform built on reduced tax rates and a roaring economy would have attracted every sector of the electorate. But Republicans did not explain the difference between tax rates and tax revenue.

Voters of all persuasions can understand that a zero percent tax rate and a 100 percent tax rate yield the same revenue: zero.

High tax rates drive investors from taxpaying investments to tax-exempt bonds and other tax-avoidance strategies.

HERBERT JAFFE
Freeport, N.Y., Nov. 5, 1998

End of Monopoly

To the Editor:
One hopeful sign of resistance against the two-party monopoly that year after year ushers in one political scion after another was the election of a former pro wrestler, Jesse Ventura, as Governor of Minnesota ("A 'Bad Boy' Wrestler's Unscripted Upset," front page, Nov. 5). Minnesotans had the courage, the discernment and, yes, the enlightenment to select someone who had not spent his life as a political party hack.

Since campaign finance reform is never going to happen — because it is unrealistic to believe that money is not going to influence elections in a capitalist society — the only alternative the voters have is to make their own reforms by choosing candidates outside the two-party system.

When wealthy contributors realize that voters will choose a third-party alternative rather than respond in mechanical fashion to a choice between two candidates, both of whom are indebted to their financial backers, perhaps politics in America will become less venal.

BOB WEIR
Flower Mound, Tex., Nov. 5, 1998

Marriage on the Ballot
To the Editor:
Three states held ballot initiatives on marriage (news articles, Nov. 5). South Carolinians voted to end their State Constitution's 103-year-old ban on interracial marriage.

Sadly, however, residents of Alaska and Hawaii voted to amend their State Constitutions to ban same-sex marriages.

Proponents of the ban have been arguing that such marriages are amoral and unnatural. These are the same arguments used more than a century ago in much of the South when miscegenation was banned.

I hope gay people do not have to wait 103 years to overcome the prejudice that generated the Alaska and Hawaii initiatives and to see those proposed discriminatory amendments erased.

MICHAEL PASNIK
Jersey City, Nov. 6, 1998

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Editorial Observer/GAIL COLLINS

New York: On the Politics of Getting Out While the Getting Is Good

It was one of the standing jokes of New York politics that Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan had written more books than Senator Alfonse D'Amato had read. But all the royalties from all those books would not equal the amount of money Mr. D'Amato could raise in one phone call. You have talents, and then you have talents.

They are now both on the way out, the pair who have been the state's senatorial team for nearly two decades. Mr. D'Amato was the career pol who brought home bacon. Mr. Moynihan was the scholar-statesman, although a scholar-statesman who was quite into bacon himself. The Moynihan pork had to come in huge slabs, like the multibillion-dollar transportation act or the Manhattan post-office-turned-railroad station that, if it ever gets finished, will probably and justly be named the Moynihan Edifice.

Just days after Mr. D'Amato lost his re-election race to Representative Charles Schumer, Mr. Moynihan let it be known that he was quitting when his term ends in two years.

Where elections are mortal combat or cease-fires.

Friends of the Senator say he has been planning his retirement since 1994. If he had not, the sight of New York's junior Senator going down in flames would certainly have sent him packing. Before Mr. D'Amato's political career expired, both he and Mr. Schumer got to see advertisements a dozen times a night featuring their pictures in tones of gray and white that suggested they were either half-dead or recently released from a year in solitary confinement. And how many people get to spend sums in the eight figures for the pleasure of being publicly branded a liar or a "putthead"?

New York politicians are actually very aware of genuinely competitive contests. For most of them, a good election year is one in which everybody gets cross-endorsed by both

parties and the day after the voting finds every single public official standing exactly where he or she was the day before. (It is no accident that the State Legislature scored a 100 percent rate of return for incumbents last week.)

Mr. Moynihan never had a serious primary after 1976, when he won the Senate nomination as the lone centrist in a field of left-wing Democrats. His Republican opponents have included a State Assemblywoman who campaigned by taking buses around the state in the company of her 22-year-old daughter, and a Long Island lawyer who got to drive his own car. In 1994, the Republicans put up the heiress to a convertible-sofa empire, whose greatest claim to fame was the fact that, as a tot, she had opened and closed a couch-bed on the company's television commercials.

But the flip side to politics in New York is that if you climb high enough and hang on long enough, sooner or later somebody will smell blood and do you in. Gov. Mario Cuomo coasted along through two re-elections and

then was tossed out on his ear by George Pataki, a pleasant Republican whose name seemed to have trouble placing even after he had been in office several years. Mr. D'Amato created Mr. Pataki, plucking him out of nowhere and making him the party nominee. (In New York, nowhere would be the State Senate.) But four years later, Mr. Pataki was enjoying one of those virtual political cease-fires and Mr. D'Amato was the one voters had gotten sick of after 18 years on the job. The Governor was practically carrying Mr. D'Amato around the state — a particularly bad idea since Mr. Pataki is so tall he made the Senator look as though he had shrunk to the size of a raisin.

When your time is up in New York, it is really, really up. Mr. Schumer, who was considered to be doing quite well by running neck and neck with the legendary campaigner Al D'Amato, wound up absolutely obliterating the Senator on Election Day. Mr. Schumer, a man who respects the manic activity his profession requires at the highest levels, was last

seen running around upstate New York, thanking all the people who had actually not voted for him. Mr. D'Amato had portrayed him as the enemy of all things agricultural, and Mr. Schumer — who is indeed one of your more urban politicians — is determined to win over the rural areas. "They think that once he's elected they'll never see him again," laughed one of Mr. Schumer's aides. "Little do they know they'll never see the end of him. God help us if there's an ice storm." (Mr. Schumer was violently attacked for voting against relief for upstate farmers after an ice storm. If bad weather strikes this winter, look for him on snow shoes, somewhere near the Canadian border, delivering coffee door to door.)

Mr. Moynihan did something similar when he was first elected. If on a more leisurely schedule. He became the first Senator in New York history to visit all 62 counties, some of them extremely remote and containing only about a half-dozen people. But he has been around too long to feel that hungry again, and his decision to

retire suggests that he has not lost his best political instincts. Mr. D'Amato had barely given his concession speech when the political chattering classes began theorizing that he would run against Mr. Moynihan in two years. Mr. Moynihan would be 73 then. Mr. D'Amato first won his Senate seat by claiming that 76-year-old Jacob Javits was too old to stay in office. But then in two years, Mr. D'Amato will be 63 himself. Better to leave it to the next generation.

Already we are hearing suggestions that the son of Mario Cuomo or the son of Robert Kennedy might run for the seat. Sons did not do too well in this last election, unless their name was Bush. Three heirs to great political family traditions were knocked off in Minnesota alone by Jesse Ventura. New York has never had a professional wrestler running for public office, although we did have a gubernatorial candidate whose claim to fame was a couple of years as TV's Grandpa Munster. The time may be right. Perhaps Hulk Hogan would have the energy.

Liberties MAUREEN DOWD Lovers & Haters

WASHINGTON
There's a new spirit wafting through the land.
Hey, baby, we're talking about love power.

The voters have chosen the lovers over the haters. The meanies with the jangly names — Newt Gingrich, Dick Army, Lauch Faircloth, Fob James, "B-1" Bob Dornan — are toast. So are the guys like Al D'A-mato, who sneered and jeered and used ethnic and anatomical epithets. So are the Christian zealots. And obsessive special prosecutors.

The Democratic lover boys, like Bill Clinton, and the Republican preachers of compassion, like the Bush boys, are being embraced.

Jesse (the Body) Ventura may have been a body-slaming, pile-driving bad boy in the ring, but the big lug just seems so darn huggable when he says he will continue to be a volunteer high school football coach even after he starts work at the Minnesota statehouse. And you've got to figure a Governor in a fringed jacket is not going to do anything too Draconian.

The moral of the Gingrich fall is this: When politicians behave like wrestlers, caricature villains who are only out to destroy their opponents, then the voters might as well get the real thing. Even if Governor Ventura makes a mess in Minnesota, he can't possibly rival the mess the G.O.P. House leadership has made in Washington.

On Friday, as he slipped the first shiv into the Speaker's back, Bob Livingston tried to drape his palace coup in lacy doilies: "I love him dearly. He's my friend." He sounded more like Rosie than Brutus. He called "his dear friend" Newt "a man of Churchillian proportions."

Even at the moment he was threatening Mr. Gingrich, the bland Mr. Livingston did not seem very threatening.

Steve Largent, the boyish Hall-of-Fame football player from Oklahoma who wants to topple Mr. Arney, said the Republicans had to recapture that twinkling, leading-man magic of Ronald Reagan.

Far from throwing bombs and raving about impeachment, Mr. Largent promoted himself for the job of House majority leader by saying he had been "a member of the team."

He resigns! (Not Bill.)

shares a house in the Capitol Hill neighborhood with two Democratic Congressmen.

Unlike the nasty Arney, who "slipped" and called Barney Frank "Barney Fag," Mr. Largent claimed he actually liked working with liberals and moderates — and had met with Barney Frank, Gerry Studds and David Bonior in an effort to "build the relationship and the bridge."

Newt Gingrich and Ken Starr made a monumental mistake. They were not merely content with punishing the President for having an affair in the Oval Office with an intern. They wanted to kill off the lax moral spirit of the 60's and stomp on what Mr. Gingrich in 1994 disdainfully called the "Great Society, counter-culture McGovernik" legacy. Both men thought they could banish situational ethics and restore 50's black-and-white morality. But gray is the fashion this fall. While baby boomers are more conservative, sexually and politically, and more materialistic than they once were, they don't want to go back to McGuffey Readers and twin beds. And a lot of them remember the 60's fondly.

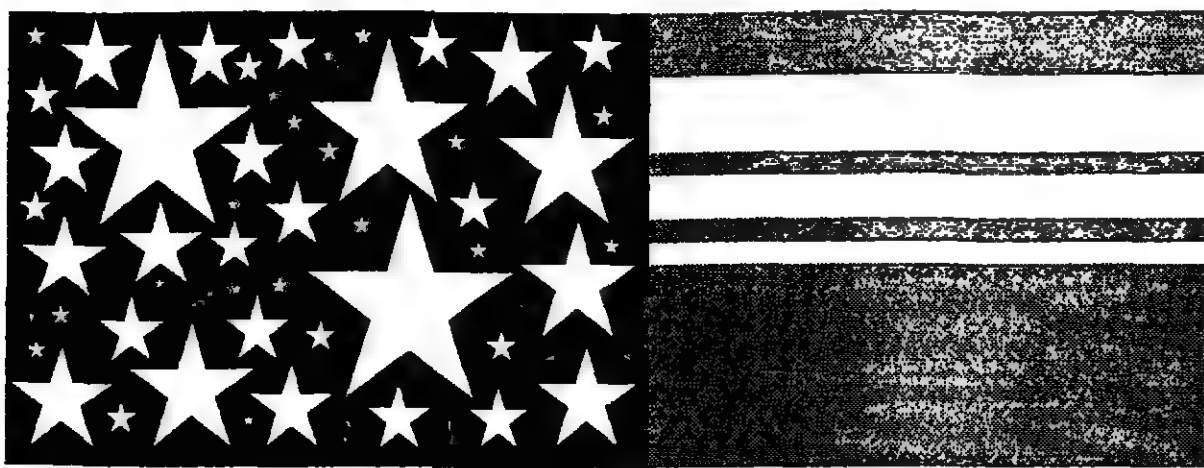
Moderation is mod. The extremes are extremely out. The message of the election was more kisses and hugs, fewer vendettas and wired-up girlfriends. More terms of endearment, fewer articles of impeachment.

The capital is in shock this weekend. It's hard to believe that we are already in the post-Newt era. With a brief statement issued on Friday night, the history professor was history.

At the White House there is already galloping Newt nostalgia. The day after the election, West Wing strategists were salivating over the prospect of running Al Gore against Mr. Gingrich and Mr. Starr, no matter who won the G.O.P. nomination.

With the Speaker dumped and Ken Starr's feet sticking out from under the house like the Wicked Witch of the East after the tornado, Democrats may have gotten too much of what they wished for. Mr. Clinton has so far been blessed with the over-reaching of his enemies. The spotlight will now shift away from the President's enemies to the President himself.

It's a mad, mad world. Who would have ever thought that the man Monica would bring down would be Newt?



Return of the L-Word?

By Michael Ignatieff

LONDON
It seems incredible now that Lionel Trilling could have written in 1950 that "liberalism is not only the dominant but even the sole intellectual tradition" in America. This wasn't true even then: Trilling blithely ignored the vigorous life of American conservatism and radicalism.

He also failed to foresee just how brief the liberal ascendancy would be: from Roosevelt's second inauguration in 1937 through to Lyndon Johnson's Great Society, with the Civil Rights Act of 1965 as American liberalism's last hurrah.

Since then, retreat has been the order of the day. Though not the toxic label it was earlier in the 1980's, liberalism remains the politics that dares not speak its name. In their strong electoral showing last week, the Democrats successfully depicted themselves as moderates, not liberals.

But these hedgings make for a political discourse that denies some important realities. Americans who despise the very word liberalism actually live within a polity ordered by liberal institutions, like Social Security and Medicare.

The rhetoric of American politics requires Democrats and Republicans alike to praise the free market, but every day bankers and traders actually pray that market regulators like Alan Greenspan, chairman of that eminently Rooseveltian institution, the Federal Reserve, will deliver them from the ravages of markets red in tooth and claw.

This paradox — made familiar by John Kenneth Galbraith — seems to do nothing to restore liberalism's prestige. Its political achievements cannot rescue its moral status. For the real obstacle to liberalism's revival is its association with moral relativism. The liberal hour ushered in the moral and sexual revolution of the 1960's, only to be devoured by it after 1988. It was then, as Middle America reacted to the new-found freedoms of its sons and daughters, that Richard Nixon became the first politician to discover that he could ride all the way to the White House by equating liberalism with permissiveness.

But this, too, was paradoxical: even as Americans voted for politicians who ran against the 60's and all of that decade's supposedly disorienting experimentation, the larger culture slowly embraced the permissive revolution: freer divorce, more sexual explicitness, more tolerant attitudes toward homosexuality. The liberal causes of the 60's won out, and American society is more inclusive and open as a result.

But liberalism paid the price of

The people judge Clinton in their own way.

losing its own moral legitimacy. It was seen rightly as being both too permissive on the one hand and too dismissive on the other of the family values of most Americans.

In retrospect, the reasons for the conservatives' ascendancy in the 1970's seem clear. They had proved more adept than liberals at understanding the anxiety and unease of a generation living through rapid moral change. Conservatism had the virtue of nostalgic simplicity: it preached "values," preferably ones with divine sanction. In doing so, it effectively associated liberalism with relativism, with "anything goes."

But in the late 1990's, the conservative counter-revolution is encountering difficulties of its own. "Values" are anything but the rigid moral compass that conservatives suppose. For

Michael Ignatieff is the author of "Isaiah Berlin: A Life."

values conflict. Even for the devout and the faithful, there is no rock of ages to cling to.

As the legal philosopher Ronald Dworkin has persuasively argued, the abortion issue is not a debate, as conservatives contend, between those who hold life sacred and those who don't. It is a furious, even violent confrontation between people who believe equally in the special importance of human life but derive radically different practical conclusions

Pluralism, not absolutism, is the true American morality.

from that shared moral premise.

Likewise, the debate about the conduct of President Clinton is not, as many conservatives claim, between those who don't care about immorality and those who do. It is between those who believe that private immorality forfeits public trust and those who do not. And if public immorality — that is, perjury — is in question, the debate is between those who believe equivocation in any court of law is wrong and those who believe exceptions can be made if the court in question is actually a witch trial.

In the largest terms, this is a debate not between relativists and conservatives, but between pluralists and absolutists. Liberals, I would argue, should be pluralists, not relativists: their claim should be not that objective standards of moral behavior don't exist, but that public and private standards conflict.

Moral judgment is inescapable, but it requires, at a minimum, an understanding of which moral standards are relevant to which actions. Judging from the failure of the moral absolutists to convict President Clinton in the court of American opinion, it appears that most Americans are practicing pluralists. That is, they believe there are absolute standards of private and public conduct but they do not suppose that these both point in the same direction.

They know that there have been good Presidents who have been less than perfect human beings, and fine fathers and husbands who turned out to be indifferent Presidents. They think that while lying is a bad thing, not all lies are equally bad. A majority appear to believe that the stability of government institutions is jeopardized if the law becomes the instrument of politically motivated moral absolutism.

If this is how Americans are making their moral choices, it would appear that the times are right for liberalism, for a revival of a political mode of thought that takes its stand not only against moral absolutism and its intolerance, but also against its absurd and sometimes violent simplifications.

Yet simplifications are seductive and pluralism is complex. Liberalism's revival does not just require politicians with the courage to talk to Americans in a manner that respects their moral intelligence. It also requires an intellectual revival that gets the distinction between rel-

Note to Readers

The Op-Ed page welcomes unsolicited manuscripts. Because of the volume of submissions, however, we regret that we cannot acknowledge an article or return it. If manuscripts are accepted for publication, authors will be notified within two weeks. For further information, call (212) 556-1831.

In America

BOB HERBERT

In the War Zone

There are times when Dr. Warren Hern feels more like a combat veteran than a physician. Here is what he says about a normal workday: "I walk out of my office and the first thing I do is look at the parking garage that the hospital built two doors away and see if there is a sniper on the roof. I basically expect to be shot any day."

Two of his close friends have been shot. "My dear friend, Garson Romalis in Vancouver — he was the first of the Canadian doctors to be shot. They almost shot off his leg. He nearly died on his kitchen floor."

That was in the fall of 1994. Dr. George Tiller was another friend. He was shot in both arms in Wichita, Kan., in 1993.

Other doctors have fallen. Dr. David Gunn was shot to death in Pensacola, Fla., in 1993, and Dr. John Britton was shot to death, also in Pensacola, in 1994. Dr. Barnett Slepian was shot to death in the Buffalo suburb of Amherst a little over two weeks ago.

There are big headlines whenever a doctor who performs abortions is killed, but the relentless terror and gruesome violence that continue to plague abortion providers and the people who assist them take place below the level of consciousness of most Americans.

Few people know about Robert Sanderson, the Birmingham, Ala., police officer moonlighting as a security guard whose body literally was blown to pieces in the bombing of a clinic last January. Or about the widely circulated "Army of God" manual that gives detailed information on the construction and use of bombs and other murderous devices, and recommends that if you don't kill doctors who perform abortions you should at least render their hands useless.

"It's a war zone," said Dr. Hern, who runs the Boulder Abortion Clinic in Boulder, Colo. "It's very frightening and it ruins your life."

The terror frightens everyone. Dr. Hern said: "We had this absolutely fantastic candidate for a front-desk job in my office. She was ready to accept, but because of the assassination of Dr. Slepian she decided not to work here. She talked to her friends and family and decided she could not live with that kind of fear. I didn't blame her. That has happened on numerous occasions. We've had people leave here because of the violence."

What that means, said Dr. Hern, is that the violence and the terror are working.

"How do we provide these services to women," he asked, "if those who would help us are terrified?"

The anti-abortion terrorists get much aid and comfort — sometimes openly, sometimes covertly — from various right-wing political elements, including members of the Christian right, the militia movement and the white supremacy movement. The moral fervor of the right, so loudly proclaimed, is selective indeed. The feeling of many on the right is that if violence and terror result in the curtailment of abortion, so be it.

Abortion doctors living in terror.

Dr. Hern is the author of "Abortion Services," the principal textbook on abortion for doctors in the U.S. and a number of other countries. He is also an associate clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Colorado.

He lost count of the death threats against him many years ago. They started as soon as he began doing abortions back in the early 1970's. "I slept with a rifle beside my bed," he said, "because I lived up in the mountains and was afraid I would be attacked."

He wears a bulletproof vest at some of his public appearances. In 1988 someone fired five shots into his office. "I had to install bulletproof windows," he said. He'd already hired private, armed security guards. The harassment, the demonstrations and the terror continued. The office at times was surrounded by 50 to 100 peace officers of one kind or another. "It was," said Dr. Hern, "a nightmare."

Now the hard right has been dealt a setback. The extremists have faltered, at least momentarily. Newt Gingrich is packing his bags and the Republican Party is searching frantically for a friendlier demagogue. This can only help.

"It seems that the radical right lost a lot of ground in the election and that's very encouraging," said Dr. Hern. "There clearly are Republicans out there who don't agree with that agenda and they should be running the party. Then people can get a little balance back."

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THE ARTS

Revealing an Iran Where the Chadors Are Most Chic

By GODFREY CHESHIRE

IN the sweepstakes for the title Most Interesting and Accomplished Filmmaker the United States Has Never Heard Of, Dariush Mehrjui has certain obvious advantages. While still in his 20's, the Iranian director made "The Cow" (1989), a film so powerful that it not only was credited with launching Iran's modern cinema but also, a decade later, made a fan of the Ayatollah Khomeini and thus helped assure that country's cinema of having a post-Revolutionary phase. Cosmopolitan and ever-controversial, Mr. Mehrjui has had films banned by the Shah's regime and the Islamic Republic, and almost surely is the only filmmaker reared a devout Muslim who counts the novelists J.D. Salinger and Saul Bellow as major influences on his work. He's even made a film of Mr. Salinger's "Franny and Zooey," called "Pari," set in contemporary Iran.

That film, and a retrospective of eight other movies by Dariush Mehrjui, will be shown starting on Friday, when the Film Society of Lincoln Center begins a three-week series on Iranian film.

While the extent of Mr. Mehrjui's career may come as news to American cinephiles, his importance is universally recognized in Iran. In 1997, when the respected Iranian journal Film Monthly polled its readers and critics, the results showed that the readers regarded Mr. Mehrjui's "Hamoon," a dark satire of modern Iran, as the best Iranian film in history, ahead of such internationally acclaimed works as Abbas Kiarostami's "Through the Olive Trees" and Mohsen Makhmalbaf's "Gabbeh." The critics, meanwhile, ranked Mr. Mehrjui higher in importance than Mr. Kiarostami and Mr. Makhmalbaf, and cited "Hamoon" as more significant than any of their films.

So why hasn't his renown traveled as well as others? Back in 1971, "The Cow" won prizes at film festivals in Chicago and Venice, and even some of his more recent films have captured international awards (his "Lella" played last spring's New Directors/New Films series at the Museum of Modern Art). Yet in the last decade Mr. Mehrjui hasn't been favored by many of the top European film festivals, and the reasons evoke a paradox that goes to the heart of his work and its cultural resonances.

When asked, European festival programmers usually say that they bypass Mr. Mehrjui's films because his work is "too Western." That opinion provokes howls of disbelief in Iran. Iranians feel sure they know why the West doesn't "get" Mr. Mehrjui, and they'll gladly tell you: it's that his films are "too Iranian."

Both perceptions stem from the fact that, virtually alone among Iranian directors, Mr. Mehrjui deals regularly, knowingly and provocatively with Iran's middle and upper-middle classes. His characters drive BMWs, wear chadors that are distinctly chic, and argue (endlessly) over art, religion, divorce settlements and real-estate deals. At a time when "Iranian cinema" internationally connotes a certain distanced exoticism, Mr. Mehrjui's sleek, educated, post-modern Teheran is anomalous.

But hardly forbidding. "You see his characters and feel like you could step into their living rooms and be perfectly comfortable," says Richard Peña, the programming director of the Film Society of Lincoln Center, which included Mehrjui films in its two previous Iranian festivals.

MR. MEHRJUI, who lives with his wife, Farial, a Harvard-educated architect, and their two children in genteel northern Teheran, belongs to the world he describes. Born in 1939 to a middle-class family, he describes himself as being intensely interested in music, fiction, religion, philosophy and other subjects as a teen-ager. Vittorio De Sica's neorealist classic "The Bicycle Thief" was the film that sparked his interest in cinema. After learning English and investigating what were then a very small group of universities abroad that taught film, he selected the University of California at Los Angeles and enrolled in 1959.

Returning to Iran in 1965, he took an offer to direct a James Bond spoof that set new standards for technical ambition in Iran but was a commercial disappointment. His artistic career began with his second feature, "The Cow" remains a dazzling achievement, the most impressive of Mr. Mehrjui's pre-Revolutionary features. Showing the influence of the neorealist works he admired, the film depicts a poor village thrown into turmoil by the loss of its one cow, whose owner develops a mad identi-



Niki Karimi, center, in "Pari," a 1995 film directed by Dariush Mehrjui that is based on the J.D. Salinger novel "Franny and Zooey."

fication with the dead animal.

Spare, allusive, featuring starkly beautiful black and white photography and an extraordinary lead performance by Ezzatollah Entezami, now Iran's most revered actor, "The Cow" had a catalytic effect on Iran's filmmakers and critics. But the Shah's government, which had funded it, bristled at the film's depiction of poverty and suppressed its public display.

Social themes remained at the center of his work through the 70's. "Mr. Simpleton" (1970), a satire about a bumpkin seduced by Teheran's big-city ways, was his one box office smash during this period, and the one film not to run afoul of official views. "Postman" (1971), a free adaptation of Georg Büchner's "Woyzeck," won prizes at the Venice Film Festival but provoked the Shah's censors, while "The Cycle" (1974), a blistering drama about poor people forced to sell their blood, was slapped with a ban that lasted three years.

In the months before the 1979 Rev-

olution, Mr. Mehrjui spent time in France filming the Ayatollah Khomeini, whom he supported, and other exiled anti-Shah leaders. Watching "The Cow" reportedly spurred Khomeini to comment approvingly on the cinema's social uses, a statement that proved valuable to progressive officials trying to revive the film industry under the Islamic Republic.

After a sojourn in France, where he made a meditative docudrama about the poet Rimbaud, Mr. Mehrjui returned to Iran and found his post-Revolutionary voice in "The Tenants" (1987), an exuberant, brilliantly mounted comedy about a group of apartment dwellers at war with the slick realtor who wants to evict them. The Islamic Republic's first runaway hit, the film, like other Mehrjui works, still amazes with its stringently direct satire of contemporary social discontents.

"Hamoon" (1990), which I, like Iranians, consider his best film, tells of a hapless 40-year-old intellectual undergoing a mental meltdown as his marriage unravels. The most

autobiographical of his movies, the dark comedy-drama shows a third world society invaded by Toshiba and Sony, where characters fixate on their connections to Kierkegaard and Salinger as well as to Islamic religious figures, and where the protagonist's artist wife shouts at her beleaguered lawyer, "Women have no rights in this country!"

That accusation leads directly to the four female-centered films Mr. Mehrjui made next. "Bamoo" (1992), a brooding satire loosely based on Buñuel's "Viridiana," about a rich woman whose house is invaded by poor people, has been banned since completion. "Sara" (1994) and "Pari" (1995) transfer well-known Western literary works—Ibsen's "A Doll's House" and Mr. Salinger's "Franny and Zooey," respectively—to contemporary Iran with fascinating results. (Both films star the popular young actress Niki Karimi, who will appear with a group of Iranian women filmmakers at a Nov. 20 screening.) And "Lella," a melodrama about a young wife whose in-laws

pressure her to allow her husband to take a second wife, has the distinction of being the first Mehrjui film picked up for United States distribution; it will be released in the spring by First Run Features.

His most recent film, which he will introduce at the series opening on Friday, is "The Pear Tree." It depicts a writer recalling his adolescence in the idyllic Teheran of decades past. A lyrical, burnished memory film, it occasioned one of the director's styes and runs around the censor: unable to show the hair of the teen-age girl who dominates the story's flashback, he depicts the character getting her head shaved because of lice, then wearing a "wig" that looks suspiciously like the young actress's hair. The witty ruse typifies the ingenuity of a director who has managed to chronicle the fortunes of Iranians through three decades of shifting political winds.

Godfrey Cheshire, the chairman of the New York Film Critics Circle, is working on a book on Iranian film.

Post-Modern Pop, Sans Irony

By JON PARELES

BECK sees dead ends everywhere on his new album, "Mutations." Creativity and culture are played out, love has faded away. There aren't even any new jokes to be told. "Who wants to be there to sweep the debris, to harness dead horses?" he sings.

Well, for the length of the album, it seems that Beck does. He contemplates entropy and decay with his most lucid and unguarded songs, as he renounces his old studio tomfoolery. Some of the songs could be about long-lost love, but nearly all of them also read as impressions of a time when the only certainty is a free-floating sense of loss.

On previous albums, Beck has been a quizzical but resourceful post-modernist, sorting through the fragments and juxtapositions of an era that offers a surfeit of information with no clear hierarchies or boundaries. "I'm picking up the pieces and I'm putting them up for sale," he sang on "Odelay," while his music turned those pieces into sonic collages that could be zany or oddly affecting. "Mutations" (DGC) is more reflective. Facing the same post-modern situation, its songs muse on what it means when "Dead ends they won't come to life any more." Yet even as he writes about being immobilized, he finds beauty, insight and sly humor.

The way Beck, 28, tells it, "Mutations" simply happened to fall together. He had just finished more than two years of touring and had a band sharpened by constant performing. He also had a backlog of songs and a handful of new ones. He thought he would make an album for Bong Load Records, an independent label, that would be a low-key side-trip from his million-selling albums on DGC Records, "Mellow Gold" from 1994 and "Odelay" from 1996.

A producer he wanted to work with, Nigel Godrich (who recorded Radiohead's "OK Computer"), was available for just two weeks. So Beck and his band made up arrangements on the spot, mostly performing live in the studio and often finishing a song a day. By the time the two weeks were up, Beck had a complete album. Soon afterward, DGC decided that it was worth a full major-label release and acquired it from Bong Load.

"We were doing it so quickly we didn't have time to think about it," Beck said in an interview in his house. He looks like he hasn't slept much; he's stubbly and rumped, speaking slowly and carefully in a



Beck performing in 1994.

deeper register than his singing voice.

The music on "Mutations" sounds old-fashioned in places. It draws on blues, honky-tonk, folk-rock, country waltzes and bossa nova; its influences stop short chronologically before the hip-hop sampling and drum machines that gave Beck his hits. But the tunes can't take refuge in the past. Chords wander in wayward directions, away from traditional paths; oddball instruments and electronic sounds flicker at the edges. The new songs are stranded between eras in an unmistakably 1990's way, full of anachronisms and odd linkages; they're "looking back at some dead world that looks so new," Beck sings.

"People write that I dig through the pickle barrel of the past," he said. "But I think of the music of the last hundred years as contemporary. It's all part of a fluid continuous line. People have a general sense of superiority to the past, but I don't think we're any smarter or more enlightened. We were still the same people 30 years ago as we were 20 years ago. I also think that when you come to the end of something you really have to go back to the beginning."

That end is not, he insists, the end of the century. "I'm trying hard not to make any millennial statements," he said. "People are too hung up on that. For the millennium, I just want to come out with a party record with dumb sounds and dumb songs and dumb lyrics."

"Mutations" marks a change that's more private than an adjustment of the calendar. Beck, whose albums, stage shows and television appearances have been full of deadpan parodies, says he is ready to give up irony. "I've been guilty of irony and cynicism, those things that are symptomatic of our times," he said. "You can't really blame anybody, in

the way irony and cynicism are pounded into everybody's heads in every TV commercial, as if we're all insiders on the big joke here. But there's got to be more than just the joke. I'm trying to be more conscientious of certain attitudes and try to grow beyond them and come up with something new."

"Mutations" doesn't move with the giddy metamorphoses of Beck's DGC albums. Nor does it go back to the sketchy, folksy sound of "One Foot in the Grave," a 1994 side project that he released on K Records. Yet the music isn't a complete departure from Beck's past albums; it's a continuation of woozy, country-and-fuzz-tone songs like "Pay No Mind (Snoozer)" on "Mellow Gold" and "Lord Only Knows" on "Odelay." Most of the new songs gaze at the general decline with a calm, thoughtful tone, while bending old frameworks way out of shape.

"Bottle of Blues," which sees Viagra as something that masks a deep malaise, has a 12-string strum that harks back to Lead Belly, but it veers away from the shape of the blues and finds distorted synthesizer solos and wah-wah guitar sneaking into the mix. "Nobody's Fault But Mine," about the ruins of a romance, could have been a Neil Young meditation, but floats instead on an Indian drone.

Beck expects to warp his sources. "You can't write a pure country song any more," he said. "You can't write a pure Appalachian ballad. Because we live in a world where we've all heard speed-metal, we've all heard drum-and-bass, we've all heard old-school hip-hop. Even if you're not influenced by it or you're not using elements of it, they're in your mind. That's why I called the album 'Mutations,' because it's trying to embrace the evolution, embrace the impurity of the music."

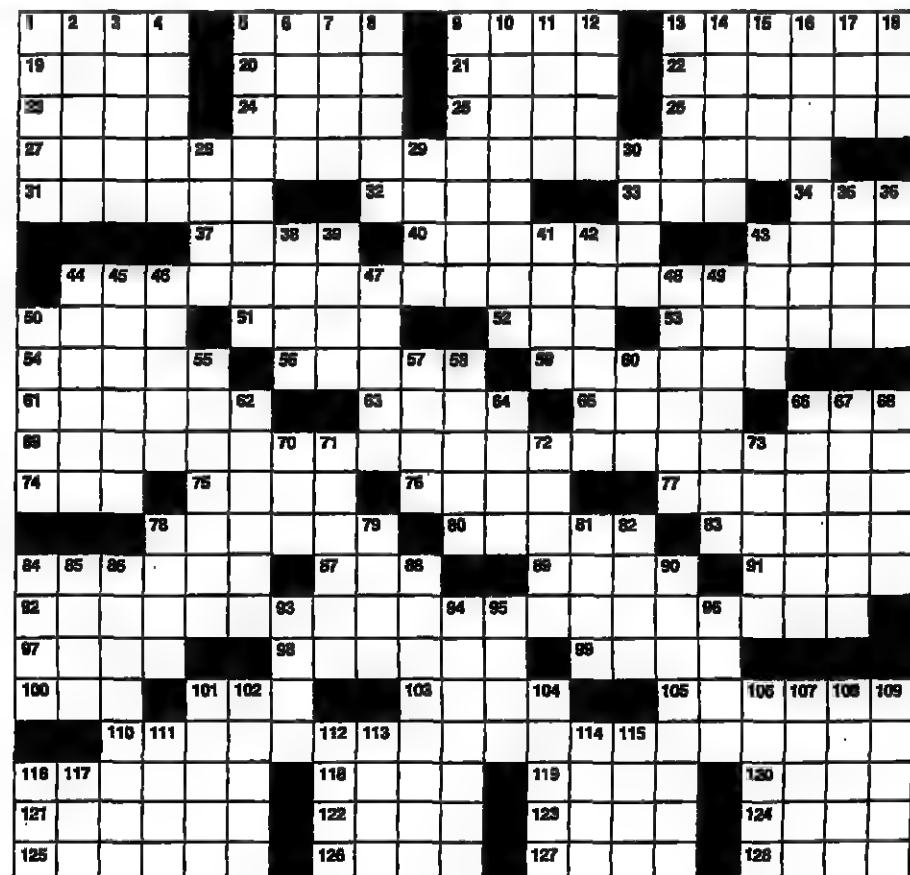
The old, noisy, style-hopping Beck re-emerges on the album's last song, hidden after the stately trudge of "Static," a song about the temptations of resignation and "convalescent bliss." In the untitled song, Beck starts with the electric harpsichord and airy harmonies of mid-1980's pop, then dives toward a fuzz-toned psychedelic bass and freakout drumming, then shifts through some tempo changes. Yet within the music's manic thrills, he sings about "derelict boulevards" and "no direction to be known." If there is a way out, it's the paradoxical perseverance that turns up in "We Live Again," a dreamy, hovering waltz about old age and death. "The end of the end," Beck sings. "We live again! Oh, I grow weary of the end." Somehow, it sounds like hope.

SHOCK THERAPY

BY FRED FISCOP / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

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- 67 Au pair: Var.
- 68 Beats by a hair
- 70 Cousin of calypso
- 71 Like some teas
- 72 Prefix with -plasty

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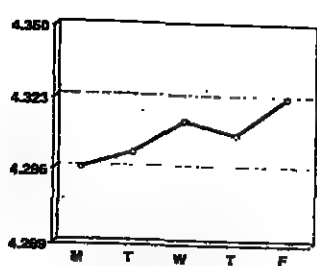
BUSINESS & FINANCE

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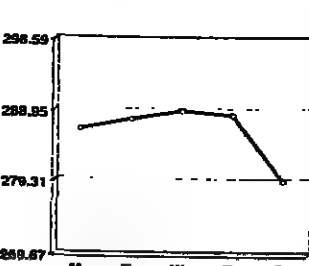
MARKETS

in brief

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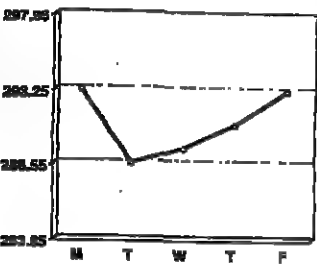


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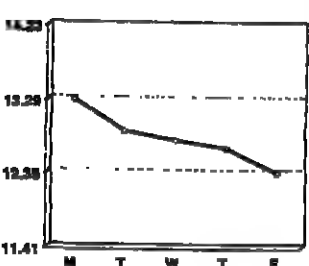
GOLD

\$ per ounce

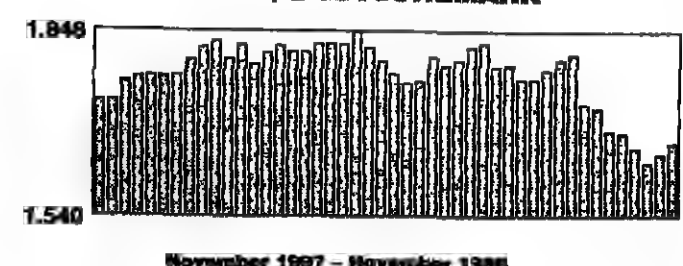


OIL

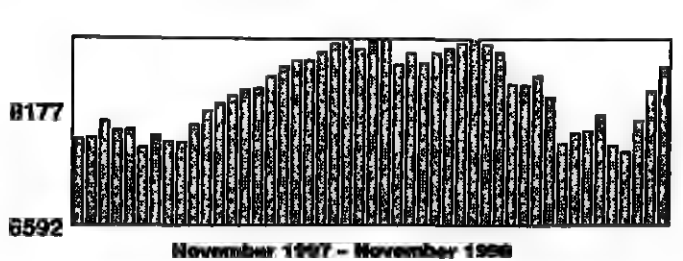
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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Ormat wins \$172m. Kenya deal

Ormat International has won a \$172 million deal to build a geothermal power plant in Kenya with a capacity of up to 100 megawatts, the company said yesterday. The company, a subsidiary of Ormat Industries Ltd., signed the contract with the Kenya Power and Lighting Company Ltd. (KPLC) to set up the plant, manufacture electricity from geothermal sources, and sell it to the Kenyan utility. Ormat's supply contract with KPLC is for 20 years during which time the plant is expected to bring in \$840m. in revenues. This is the first time that US-based Ormat, which develops, makes and sells power stations, has won a contract in Kenya. The company has completed similar projects in the US, New Zealand, the Philippines, Iceland, Italy, Mexico, and Ethiopia.

Nicky Blackburn

D&B: 7,500 businesses shut in '98

Some 7,500 companies and businesses were closed in 1998, according to a survey published yesterday by Dun & Bradstreet. D&B, which provides information and reports on Israeli companies to foreign investors, said the number of closed businesses is relatively high when compared to previous years. Reuven Kuvent, D&B general manager, said the figures indicate the economic slowdown has a negative impact on traditional industries, which are losing their relative advantage. He added that, at the same time, the number of high-tech companies is growing rapidly.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Dubek invests in high-tech

Dubek, Israel's only cigarette manufacturer, yesterday announced an investment of \$1 million in Petah Tikva-based Techium Smart Energy Solutions. In a press conference in Tel Aviv, Techium, a developer of lightweight batteries, and Dubek presented a new battery, which is half the size of other batteries and is compatible with all cellular phones. Dubek said that the investment in Techium consisted of a \$1m. loan, which can be converted into 12 percent of the company.

Dan Gerstenfeld

EU labeling deal said close

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Talks between senior Israeli and European Union officials in Brussels this weekend brought the sides "closer than ever" on the dispute over goods produced in the territories, according to an Israeli source close to the talks. "What's been agreed needs to be discussed at higher levels," said the source. "Both sides were able to clarify their positions." The source added that holding the meeting in the shadow of the Wye agreement helped improve the atmosphere. The Israeli team included Eytan Bentsur and Dov Mishor, directors-general of the Foreign and Industry and Trade ministries, and Customs and VAT Authority director Motti Ayalon and Foreign Ministry deputy director-general for economic affairs Victor Harel. In May, the European Commission issued two papers on

trade with Israel and its other Mediterranean partners. One document was highly critical of Israel's treatment of the Palestinian economy and accused it of preventing the free-flow of Palestinians' goods. The report also called on Israel to stop exporting goods from the territories with a "Made in Israel" label, saying this is in breach of international law. As a result of the labeling, the goods were receiving duty-free status under the EU's trade agreement with Israel. This document was angrily greeted by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who warned the EU not to threaten Israel. Since then, sporadic talks have taken place. The Israeli team is awaiting the outcome of today's meeting of the EU Council of Ministers, which is scheduled to discuss the peace process in general and may examine the trade issue.

Merhav Group ready to finance Egypt-Israel natural gas pipeline

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

The Israeli members of the Egyptian-Israeli Middle East Refineries (MIDOR) partnership are ready to build a natural gas pipeline from Egypt to Israel, Merhav Group president Yossi Maiman told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. "We would build a pipeline with others onshore or offshore if agreement is reached, whether by the governments or on a commercial level," said Maiman, who holds a 20 percent stake in the \$1.2 billion MIDOR oil refinery project at

Alexandria. "I can say this for the Israeli partners of MIDOR."

In the next two months, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, on the advice of the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC), is expected to decide on energy-supply strategy into the next century. However, over the past year there have been no talks on an official level between Cairo and Jerusalem on the subject.

IEC, which would be the largest consumer of any imported power supply, is convinced the Egyptian option makes the most economic sense. Other possibilities include

purchasing gas from Turkey, once the planned Trans-Caspian pipeline reaches the country in some seven years. Another possibility is transporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Israel by container ships from several locations.

Israel will, for reasons of cost, security and guarantee of supply, choose two providers, said Maiman. On the LNG front, Maiman believes Israel will ultimately opt for Algeria as it is geographically the closest supplier.

The problem with LNG is that initial costs are more expensive, Maiman suggesting that an off-

shore regasification plant will cost \$600 million-\$800m. The plant would also have to be in constant use to keep it in working order, meaning that it would have to be used at the same time as natural gas, rather than as a backup, which was Sharon's original intention.

The logical alternative natural gas supplier to Egypt is Turkey, which in the future could supply both Russian and Turkmen gas. However, here, the cost begins to climb because of the comparative distance. Maiman calculates transporting gas from Turkey will cost an extra \$9 per 1,000 cu.m. Israel

hopes to initially buy an annual 24 billion cu.m., starting in 2002.

Maiman said not only is Egypt the most logical option, but also it can sell its gas at a better price due to lower transportation costs.

Italian-based ENI is presently constructing a gas pipeline from the Egyptian mainland to the Sinai.

While ENI denies the intention is for this to eventually run to Israel, Maiman is convinced it can only be destined for that purpose. "There is no population in the Sinai," he said. "Consumption in Jordan is only a 10th of what it is here, so it must be bound for Israel."

France Telecom in pivotal \$6.6b. offering

By MARTINE FOURCADE

PARIS (Bloomberg) — France Telecom SA and the French government said they will sell about FR 37 billion (\$6.6b.) in stock and convertible bonds of Europe's third-biggest phone company starting today.

The sale carries special importance since its outcome is expected to be seen as a gauge of investor mood governing the global financial marketplace following the worldwide chain reaction caused by Russia's debt default announcement earlier this fall.

Stating that "an air of calm has begun to return to global markets," International Monetary Fund managing director Michael Camdessus acknowledged Friday that recent events make it imperative "to diminish the risk of the world economy slipping into recession," and called for a reform of the global monetary and financial system so as to minimize "systemic risks." The IMF head's remarks, delivered at an address to a meeting of the World Affairs Council in Philadelphia on Friday, followed an apparently concerted effort on the part of the G-7 countries to stabilize financial markets. Highlighted by successive interest rate cuts in the US and Britain and a much-awaited bank-takeover plan in Japan, the industrial powers' efforts to restore confidence across the global marketplace will today face a major test in Paris.

The France Telecom sale will include 31 million existing shares owned by the state and 50 million new shares sold by France Telecom to help fund its international expansion and the purchase of a two percent stake in Deutsche Telekom AG, its European ally. The German company will, in turn, buy 2% of France Telecom from the government. The total stake is worth FR 37.2b. at Friday's closing share price.



Michael Camdessus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, addresses the World Affairs Council on Friday in Philadelphia. (AP)

The sale will help the government cut its budget deficit and reduce France's stake in its dominant

phone company to about 62% from three-fourths, as planned at its initial public offering a year ago. Still, it won't raise as much cash as earlier expected. France Telecom's stock has lost about a fifth of its value since hitting a record of FR 490 in August.

"The government considers the objectives that prompted it to sell a stake in France Telecom last fall

have been reached," the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

Only a month ago, the French government said it would hold off on selling more France Telecom shares on concern that a worldwide economic slowdown, which drove down equity markets, would dry up demand for new stock. It reversed course after strong demand for other recent phone company offer-

ings, such as SwissCom AG, Japan's NTT DoCoMo and Finland's Sonera Oy, showed investors are still eager to invest in telecommunications stocks.

Though France Telecom and other European phone companies have fallen from record heights this summer, they haven't fallen as much as other companies more prone to fluctuations in the dollar and signs of slower economic growth. While the benchmark CAC 40 Index has risen only 18% this year, France Telecom shares have climbed 68% — even after a 15% decline since July.

The government said it will sell 32 million shares in a public offering and place about 19 million with French and foreign institutional investors. Individual investors will be able to reserve shares starting today, and the price they will pay for each share will be 10 francs below the price to be paid by institutional investors, according to the ministry.

For the government, the share sale is part of an effort to sell off French companies and reduce its debt. In the past year, France has sold a quarter of France Telecom as well as stakes in Usinor, Europe's second-largest steelmaker, Elf Aquitaine SA, the country's largest oil company and GAN SA, France's fifth largest insurer.

The Finance Ministry also said another 5.7 million shares will be offered to France Telecom employees, and the banks in charge of the placement will also have an option to buy 4.5 million more shares.

Jerusalem Post Staff contributed to this report.

Expert: Nablus exchange launched prematurely

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The Palestinian stock exchange was opened too early in the development of the Palestinian economy, according to Munther Nijem, of the business administration college at Bir Zeit University.

Speaking at a symposium held yesterday at Tel Aviv University and sponsored by the Peres Institute for Diplomacy and Regional Cooperation, the Palestinian Center for Regional Studies, and the Hammer Fund for Economic Cooperation in the Mideast, Nijem said the Al Kuds index for the market is "misleading."

He explained that Paltel, the Palestinian telecommunications company, and one of its subsidiaries, comprise as much as 65 percent of the total value of the exchange.

The index has increased some 30% in the last year, but most of the remaining 18 traded companies actually lost value.

Total market capitalization in the 12 months to June 30 amounted to \$660 million, with the companies valued at more than \$700m.

The Palestinian stock exchange can succeed, but first the Palestinian Authority must address several key issues, said Nijem.

Rules must be created for the functioning of the exchange, including the nature of disclosures, insider trading, and the general revelation of details.

The market must not be a tool for speculators but rather an alternative to the banks.

In Nijem's opinion, there are no other money or capital markets in the PA economy.

There is no money market,

given the absence of a Palestinian currency, and the lack of long-term debt trading leaves the areas without a capital market.

Nijem urged that foreign aid be used to back the issuance of long-term debt.

"This is the only way the capital market can survive and attract foreign investment," he said.

Nijem said the wider Palestinian economy is operating at 50% of capacity.

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Blewett smashes ton v. England

ADELAIDE (Reuters) - Greg Blewett pushed his claims for a recall to the Australian Test team with a century against England yesterday.

Blewett hit 143 as South Australia plundered England's bowling to reach 262 for five at close on the second day of the four-day match.

That gave them a first innings lead of 75 after England had made just 187 in their first innings.

Blewett, who lost his place in the Australian team to Justin Langer after failing on Australia's recent tour of India, is among a handful of former test players desperate to make it back into the national side.

But, despite this brilliant century, Blewett does not expect to get back for the Ashes series against England because of the strength of the current Australia lineup.

"I'm not relying on playing the first test, that's for sure," Blewett said.

"I just want to keep making runs and let them know that I'm still around."

"My goal is to have a really solid year and there's a tour coming of the West Indies so hopefully I can get my way onto that," Blewett, the South Australian captain, dominated England's attack from the outset at Adelaide Oval yesterday.

His innings lasted 312 minutes and contained 11 boundaries and a six before he was bowled by part-time spinner Mark Ramprakash.

England's bowlers toiled without luck in the Australian sun.

The pick of them was Dominic Cork, who claimed two for 28 off 28 economical overs.

Ayoun & Co. win Spitz bowls trophy

By NORMAN SPIRO

The Kiryat-Ono team of Moshe Ayoun, Avinoam Avidar, Pinna Gatiano and Telma Fink came through as the overall winners in the Max Spitz Charity Day Jerusalem Post Trophy on Saturday. They won with a 12-shot margin score when they beat the Kfar Hamaresh team of Roni Sutton, Rita Schiff, Motti Debby and Daphna Rotshstein.

Twelve bowls teams participated at the Ramat Gan Club, which was inaugurated by Max Spitz who introduced the game to Israel 45 years ago and established the first club at Ramat Gan.

Proceeds of over NIS 5,000 will be donated to the Jerusalem Post's Charities, to be distributed amongst the Toy Fund, The Forsake Me Not Fund and the Welcome Home Fund.

Hap. Netanya win in rugby

By JOEL GORDIN

Local rugby champions Hapoel Netanya kept their unbeaten record at the weekend by beating Ra'anana 45-10 at the Tel Aviv Sportek. Netanya's seven tries were scored by fly-half Darryn Pincus (2), scrum-half James Whitmore (2), No.8 and captain Avital Eliasov, center Dign Cariera and flank Guy Dotan. Pincus kicked five conversions.

All Ra'anana's points were notched by fly-half Darryl Edelstein who scored a try and kicked a penalty and a conversion.

In the second game, last year's runner-up ASA Tel Aviv went down 26-12 to Kibbutz Yizre'el. Kachenko kicked a conversion.

Also, ASA Technion Haifa beat Hapoel Galil Elyon 16-6, and Rishon LeZion defeated Kibbutz Tzora 10-3.

Wembley's twin towers to be demolished

LONDON (Reuters) - The famous twin towers of London's Wembley Stadium face demolition under the redevelopment plans to create a new 80,000-seat national stadium, the Sunday Telegraph reported yesterday.

It had been assumed the towers, centrepiece of the stadium, would be preserved under the plans to create a new £146 million stadium at the Wembley site.

But the newspaper said architects had concluded the towers would have to go to accommodate their design for the futuristic new structure.

It said that English Heritage, the government agency charged with preserving national monuments, had already been informed of the decision and had accepted that it would not be feasible to retain the towers.

The paper said space limitations ruled out repositioning the new stadium to keep the towers because they would then be situated



POWER PREVAILS - Britain's Greg Rusedski beat world No. 1 Pete Sampras for the first time yesterday.

Rusedski powers to first win over Sampras in Paris

Graf crowns triumphant comeback with title in Leipzig

PARIS (Reuters) - Greg Rusedski powered to his first win over Pete Sampras to land the Paris Open title yesterday, then said his aim was to be world No. 1.

The 13th-seeded Briton triumphed 6-4 7-6 6-3 in a one-sided final between the season's best two indoor players, a result that enhanced his chances of a place in the ATP Tour world championship later this month in Hannover.

"This match was magic. I had never beaten Pete. I had never beaten a world No. 1 before. It is very special to me," said the Canadian-born Rusedski.

"Now I think I can enter the race for world No. 1 next season," he added.

"I was not far into this season before injuries forced me out of tennis for three months," Rusedski, who posted his 29th victory of the season in an indoor tournament, showed in the 104-minute contest that he had a new approach to match his new ambition since taking on Sven Grunewald as his new coach.

Arguably the biggest server in the world - with a record at 248 kph - he also outshone Sampras in the rallies and played better than the American from the baseline.

The Briton, who won \$393,000, had never beaten the American top seed in their six previous encounters.

His determination to break the jinx was a decisive factor but his serve remained the key to this match.

A total of 18 aces, some at a tournament record 217 kph, perfectly summed up the whole clash. By contrast, Sampras was unusually clumsy on his serve, making six double faults, two of which

allowed Rusedski to break him in each of the first two sets.

In the second, Sampras led 5-2 before faltering badly.

"The 5-3 game in the second set was the turning point of the match. I played very badly, double faulted once, missed an easy volley," the American said.

"But there was not much I could do today," he added.

Weariness might also explain Sampras's defeat as he has spent five weeks away from home in his bid to finish the year top of the world rankings for a record sixth time.

It showed especially in a one-sided last set, in which the Canadian-born Briton quickly led 3-0 against a hapless Sampras, who eventually bowed out yet another ace.

Rusedski played far less than the American this season because of an ankle injury at the London grasscourt tournament at Queens which subsequently forced him to pull out during the first round of Wimbledon.

Both have a chance to meet again this week in Stockholm, a tournament in which Sampras will try to strengthen his position in the world rankings while Rusedski will bid to secure his place in the Hannover final.

Graf wins in Leipzig

Steffi Graf crowned a triumphant comeback in the Leipzig Open by beating Nathalie Tauziat in straight sets in yesterday's final to win the tournament for the fifth time.

Graf, playing her first event since an operation on her right wrist which put her out of action for

nearly two months, needed 83 minutes to win 6-3 6-4 and record her 20th victory over France's Tauziat in as many encounters.

The German former world No. 1, who has slumped to 22nd in the WTA Rankings, has now won all 25 five matches she has played in Leipzig, where she won from 1990 to 1993.

Second seed Tauziat, the beaten Wimbledon finalist this year, was more aggressive than her opponent and seized every opportunity to take the net as she earned five break points in the opening game.

Cheered on by some 5,000 partisan fans, Graf saved all five and went on to break the Frenchwoman in the seventh game before claiming the first set.

The second set was close until Graf, relying on powerful groundstrokes and precise passing shots, managed the telling break in the final game to score the 105th tournament win of her prolific career.

Graf, 29, and Tauziat, 31, were the two oldest players in the draw of the \$450,000 indoor tournament.

Victory will allow the seven-times Wimbledon champion to climb five places to 17th in the next WTA rankings. It also increased her chances of entering the season-ending championships for the world's top 16 women later this month in New York.

"I have already booked holidays for that period but I can always cancel them," said Graf, who will play in Philadelphia next week and, if she reaches the semifinals there, will make sure of a berth in the championships in New York.

Devils win 4th straight on road

SUNRISE, Florida (AP) - Jay Pandolfo deflected in the winning goal with 9:11 left in the third period to lift the Devils to a 4-3 victory over the Florida Panthers, extending New Jersey's road and overall winning streak to four games in the North American National Hockey League.

In a wide-open game Saturday afternoon between two defensive-minded teams, Brian Rolston's shot from the blue line was deflected by Pandolfo past Panthers goaltender Sean Burke at 10:49 of the third for his third goal of the season.

Sabres 2, Flyers 2

Dominik Hasek turned away 34 shots and Geoff Sanderson and Brian Holzinger scored second-period goals, extending visiting Buffalo's unbeaten streak to five games.

Hasek was spectacular in the third period when the Flyers outshot the Sabres 12-2. In the final four minutes of regulation, he stopped six Philadelphia chances including successive shots by John LeClair, Rod Brind'Amour and Eric Lindros on a power play and raised his record overall to 6-3-2 on the season.

Bruins 0, Penguins 0

Visiting Boston's Byron Dafos stopped 26 shots and Pittsburgh rookie Jean-Sebastien Aubin earned his first NHL shutout.

Aubin, making his third career start, stopped 18 shots. The Bruins had two power play opportunities in the game's first 10 minutes but generated just one shot on goal in those two chances.

Dafos has three shutouts in 11 games this season and nine for his career as the Bruins played their first scoreless tie on the road since March 11, 1970 at Chicago.

Stars 4, Kings 3

Brian Hull and Derrin Hatcher

goals on power plays as Dallas notched its first road victory.

Tony Hrkac scored for the Stars just eight seconds after the opening faceoff, setting a franchise record, and Grant Marshall got his first goal of the season to cap a four-goal second period against rookie Manny Legace.

Canucks 5, Predators 3

Mark Messier and Markus Naslund scored third-period goals less than three minutes apart, leading Vancouver over road-weary Nashville.

Messier's goal was his seventh of the season and 604th of his career as he regained sole possession of seventh place on the NHL's all-time scoring list, a goal ahead of Florida's Dino Ciccarelli. Messier is now seven goals from passing Bobby Hull.

Blues 2, Sharks 2

Host San Jose couldn't manage to score in the first two periods, then came together for a tie with St. Louis as Marco Sturm scored with 5:53 left in regulation.

Veteran goaltender Grant Fuhr suffered a groin strain midway through the first period and was replaced by Jamie McLennan, who finished with 11 saves.

Rangers 6, Maple Leafs 6

Wayne Gretzky scored with less than a minute left in regulation to lift visiting New York to a tie.

Gretzky bounced the puck off

Maple Leafs goaltender Curtis Joseph and into the net at 19:22 of the third period with Rangers goalie Dan Cloutier on the bench for an extra attacker.

Gretzky also had an assist to give him 147 points in 60 career games against the Maple Leafs.

Todd Harvey and Adam Graves each had two goals and an assist for the Rangers, while rookie Marc Savard had four assists in his first game of the season. Igor Korolev scored twice and had an assist for the Maple Leafs.

Canadiens 4, Islanders 2

Mark Recchi scored two of host Montreal's four power-play goals and added two assists while rookie Joe Theodore made 14 saves in the third period.

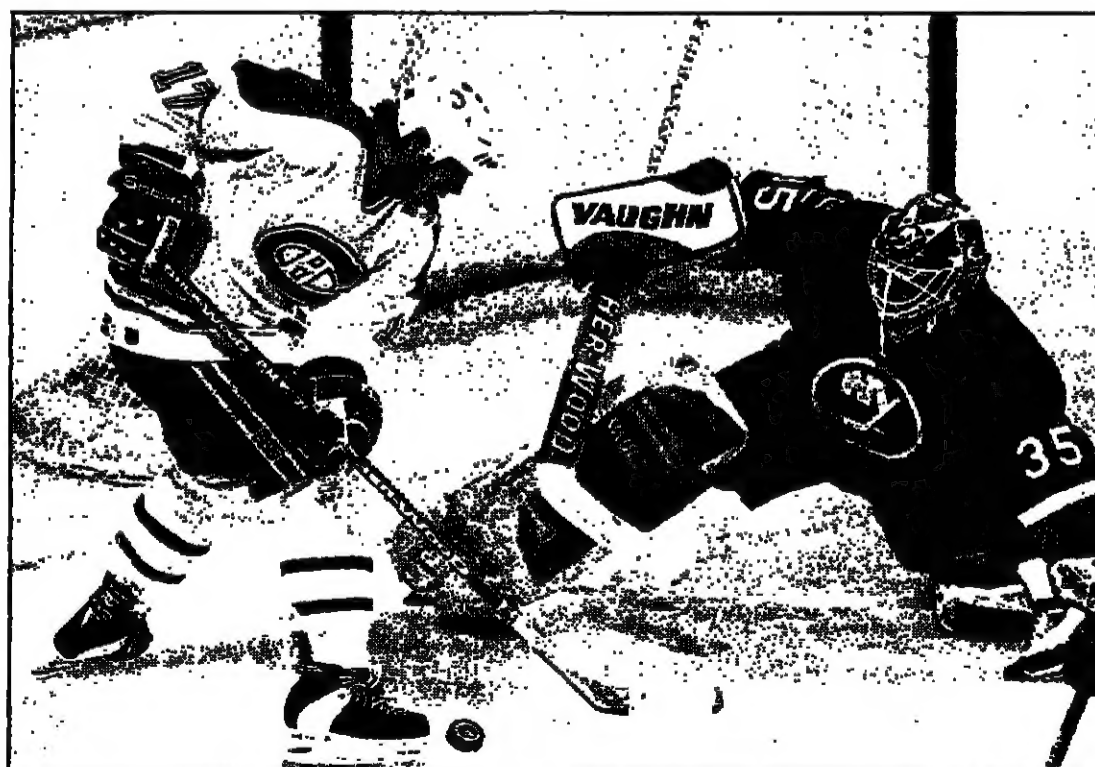
Shayne Corson had a goal and an assist and Patrice Brisebois scored into an empty net for the Canadiens.

Capitals 8, Senators 5

Peter Bondra scored three goals as the injury-riddled Washington Capitals won on the road with their biggest goal spurge of the season.

Joe Juneau added two goals and an assist for Washington, including the winning goal on a third-period power play.

Entering the contest, the Capitals were winless in six games and struggling with the NHL's second-weakest offense.



ON THE REBOUND - Canadiens' Benoit Brunet looks for the rebound off Islanders goaltender Tommy Salo in first-period action. Montreal won 4-2.

| Buffalo | | | | | | | | | | Montreal | | | | | | | | | | Dallas | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Philadelphia | | | | | | | | | | N.Y. Islanders | | | | | | | | | | Nashville | | | | | | | | | |
| First Period—1, Buffalo, Brind'Amour 5 (Zolnerowich), 10:47. Second Period—2, Buffalo, Sanderson 6 (Peca), 3:33, 3, Buffalo, Sanderson 6 (Sanderson), 16:11, 4, Buffalo, LeClerc 8 (Brind'Amour), 15:05 (pp). Third Period—None. Overtime—None. Shots on goal—Buffalo 24, Philadelphia 10. Goals—1-36. Goalies—Buffalo, Hayek. Philadelphia, VanBerkhout. A-19,584 | New Jersey 21-1-4 Florida 21-1-3 First Period—2, New Jersey, McKay 2 (Holt, Ellis), 6:02, 2, Florida, Flindermeider 4 (Dvorak, Striban), 9:53, 3, New Jersey, Anisychuk 5 (McKay), 10:47, 4, New Jersey, McKay 5 (McKay), 11:51, 5, New Jersey, McKay 5 (McKay), 15:22. Second Period—None. Overtime—None. Shots on goal—New Jersey 24, Florida 10. Goals—2-42. Goalies—New Jersey, Miller. Florida, New Jersey, Miller. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

No. 1 Buckeyes surprised by Michigan State

Longhorns' Williams keeps up Heisman pace; Seminoles' home streak grows

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Once again, a team from Michigan ruined Ohio State's perfect record. This time, though, the spoiler wasn't the Michigan Wolverines.

Julian Peterson forced three fumbles and Renaldo Hill intercepted Joe Germaine's pass at the goal line with 1:12 left as Michigan State shocked the top-ranked Buckeyes 28-24 in US college football action Saturday.

Ohio State (8-1, 5-1 Big Ten), which was No. 1 in both major polls and the Bowl Championship Series standings, was undefeated in 1995 and 1996 before losing its final regular-season game to Michigan.

This one was even more of a shocker. Michigan State was a four-touchdown underdog playing on the road against a team that had won all its games by at least 17 points.

The Spartans also trailed 24-9 early in the third quarter after Ohio State's Damon Moore picked off Bill Burke's pass and returned it 73 yards for a touchdown.

The Spartans rallied to a 25-24 lead on Sedrick Irvin's 3-yard TD run early in the fourth quarter, then padded the margin on Paul Edinger's fifth field goal of the game with 9:26 left.

Ohio State drove to the Michigan State 15 in the closing minutes, but three straight incompletions left the Buckeyes facing a fourth down. Under pressure from a blitz, Germaine lobbed the ball to the left corner, but it was underthrown and Hill picked it off.

It was the first time an unranked team beat No. 1 since Michigan State upset Michigan 28-27 in 1990.

No. 2 Tennessee 37

Alabama-Birmingham 13

Tee Martin ran for one touchdown and threw for one more and Jeff Hall kicked three field goals. The home victory gave the Volunteers (8-0) their best record since 1956 and set up a battle of unbeaten next week when No. 11 Arkansas (8-0) comes to Neyland Stadium.

No. 3 UCLA 41

Oregon State 34

Cade McNown hit a wide-open Brad Melsby for a 61-yard touchdown with 21 seconds to cap a wild fourth quarter and give visit-

ing UCLA its 18th straight victory.

Oregon State (4-6, 1-6 Pac-10) tied it 34-34 with 31 seconds left on a 28-yard field goal by Jose Cortez, but then Cortez's kickoff went out of bounds at UCLA's 41 to give the Bruins (8-0, 6-0) good field position. McNown, who threw for 377 yards and four touchdowns, found Melsby all alone on the next play.

No. 4 Kansas St. 49, Baylor 6
Michael Bishop threw two TD passes and ran for a score, and David Allen tied an NCAA record with his fourth punt-return touchdown as visiting Kansas State (9-0, 6-0 Big 12) won its 17th consecutive game.

No. 5 Florida 45

Vanderbilt 13

Doug Johnson threw for 460 yards and four touchdowns for the visiting Gators (8-1, 6-1 SEC), who scored 28 points in the first 16 minutes and had their best offensive day this season, rolling up 571 yards to Vandy's 232.

No. 6 Florida St. 45

No. 12 Virginia 14

Dexter Jackson made two of Florida State's four interceptions that set up touchdowns as the Seminoles extended the nation's longest home unbeaten streak to 39 games.

Florida State (9-1, 6-1 ACC) played the second half without quarterback Chris Weinke, who was knocked out of the game just before halftime with a concussion. Virginia (7-2, 5-2) didn't get into Florida State territory in the second half.

No. 8 Wisconsin 26

Minnesota 7

At Madison, Wisconsin, Ron Dayne ran for 133 yards and Matt Davenport tied a school record with four field goals as Wisconsin improved to 9-0 for the first time since 1901.

No. 22 Michigan 27

No. 9 Penn St. 0

At Ann Arbor, Michigan, Tom Brady threw two touchdown passes and Michigan forced five turnovers to hand Pennsylvania State its first shutout loss in 11 years.

No. 10 Arizona 41

Washington St. 7

At Tucson, Trung Canidate scored on first-quarter runs of 75 and 45 yards on the way to gain-

ing 139 in the period and 174 for the game for the Wildcats (9-1, 5-1

Pac-10). Washington State (3-6, 0-6) took another step toward become the first Pac-10 team to go from first to last in just one season.

No. 11 Arkansas 34

Mississippi 0

Clint Stoerner combined with Anthony Lucas on scoring passes of 50 and 36 yards as host Arkansas (8-0, 5-0 SEC) posted its first shutout since 1991.

No. 13 Notre Dame 31

Boston College 26

At Boston, Notre Dame safety Deke Cooper stopped Mike Cloud on fourth-and-goal from the 1 with six seconds left as the Fighting Irish (7-1) held off Boston College (3-6).

No. 14 Nebraska 42

Iowa St. 7

Dan Alexander ran for 110 yards and three touchdowns in his first start and Joe Walker returned an interception 65 yards for a score for visiting Nebraska (8-2, 4-2 Big 12). Iowa State (2-7, 0-6) committed four turnovers, including three interceptions and a fumble.

No. 15 Tulane 41, Memphis 31

Shaun King threw for four touchdowns and ran for one as Tulane remained undefeated with a road win.

No. 18 Missouri 38

Colorado 14

Devin West broke school records for rushing yards and touchdowns in a season as host Missouri (7-2, 5-1 Big 12) pounded Colorado (6-3, 3-3).

No. 20 Texas 37

Oklahoma St. 34

Ricky Williams gained 50 of the hosts' 90 yards on the game's final drive, setting up Kris Stockton's winning 29-yard field goal with three seconds left.

No. 21 Oregon 27

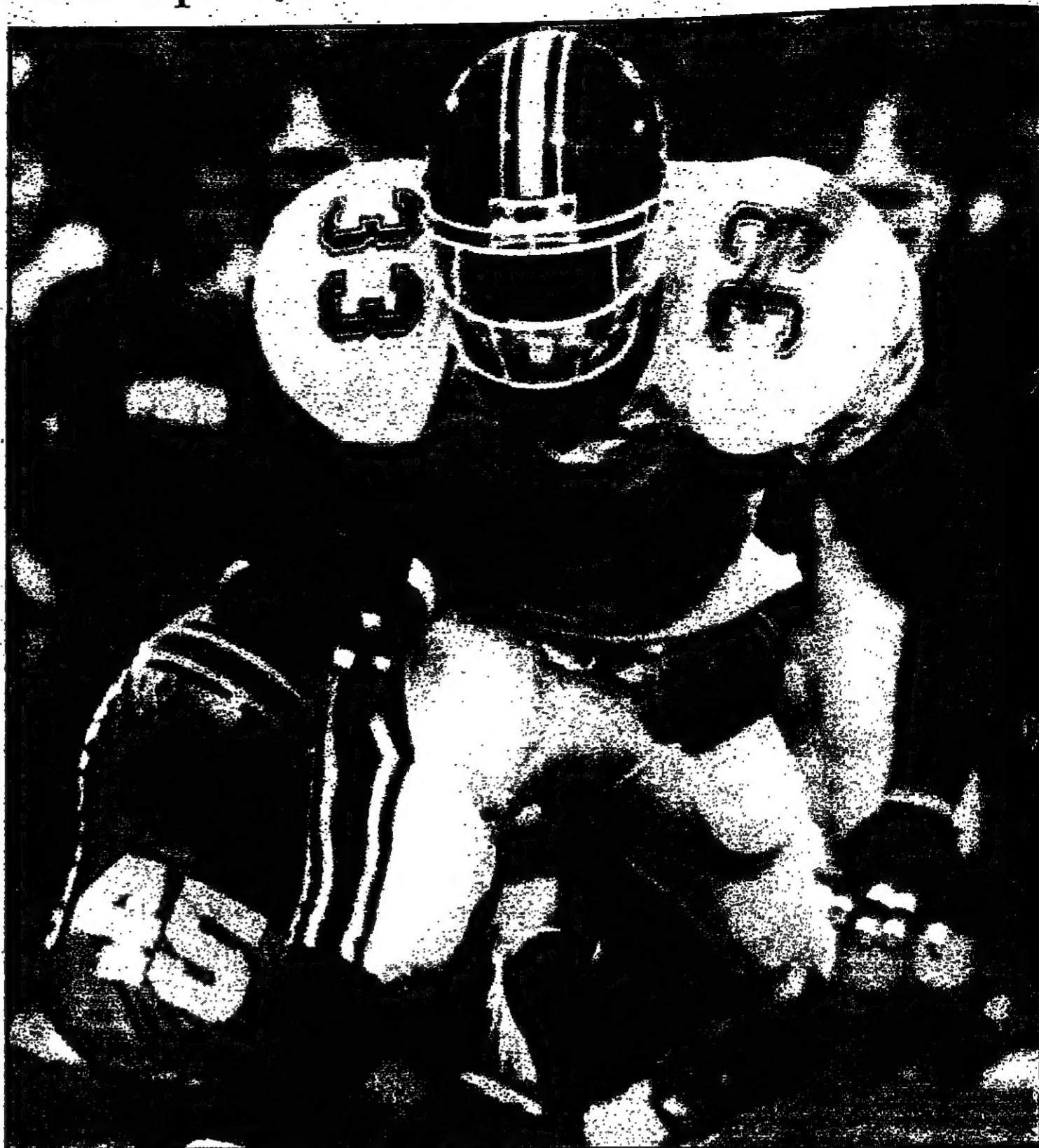
Washington 22

Akili Smith threw two TD passes to Tony Hartley and one to Donald Haynes as Oregon (7-2, 4-2 Pac-10) won at home.

No. 25 Air Force 35, Army 7

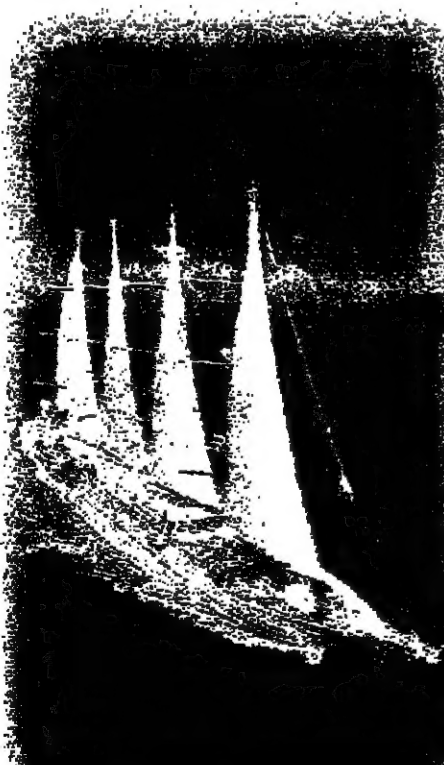
At West Point, New York, Blane Morgan threw two long TD passes to Dylan Newman and ran for a touchdown as Air Force (8-1) routed Army (2-6).

No. 17 Virginia Tech (7-1), No. 19, Georgia (6-2), No. 23, Georgia Tech (6-2) and No. 24, Miami (5-2) did not play.



WORK STOPPAGE — Michigan State's Sedrick Irvin (33) tries unsuccessfully to wriggle out of the grasp of Ohio State's All-American linebacker Andy Katzenmoyer (45) in second-quarter action. The Spartans won 28-24.

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NCAA basketball preview:

Familiar faces aim for Florida Final Four

NEW YORK (AP) — College basketball has never had another season like the one 20 years ago when the Magic and Larry show electrified the nation in the championship game.

That could all quickly change in 1998-99.

It's not impossible for an upstart team from Indiana to make some serious noise in the NCAA tournament with one player leading the way, as Larry Bird did with Indiana State. Valparaiso and buzzer-beater Bryce Drew proved that last March with a run to the Sweet Sixteen.

Neither is it far-fetched for Michigan State to be one of the country's best teams led by an exciting young guard just as the Spartans will be this season with Mateen Cleaves. Magic Johnson surely will be tuned in to his alma mater.

The naysayers have always lined up to announce what's wrong with college basketball, but the sport has survived TV saturation, scandals, scholastic shortcomings and the defection of young stars to the NBA.

This season, the last without a 20 in the name, won't be any different.

Sure, some stars have left early — All-Americans Antawn Jamison of North Carolina, Mike Bibby of Arizona and Paul Pierce of Kansas — and some never made it to campus, such as high schoolers turned pros Al Harrington, Rashard Lewis and Korleone Young. The gambling scandals are fresh in the minds of everyone at Arizona State and Northwestern, and maybe someday the term Prop 48 will disappear.

But until then, there are a lot of games to be played and there's no reason the trail to St. Petersburg for Florida's first Final Four won't be as exciting as the one that led to Salt Lake City 20 years ago.

Duke opened the '90s by reaching the championship game three straight years and Kentucky can go one better to close the decade.

The Wildcats have been in the last three title games, sandwiching championships around an overtime loss to Arizona.

The defending champs have two starters back from the Comeback



Defending NCAA champs Kentucky Wildcats' Scott Padgett.

Cats as Tubby Smith tries to become the fourth active coach with two titles and Wayne Turner tries to become the fourth player to make it to four straight Final Fours.

Turner and Scott Padgett, the returning starters, will be joined by last year's deep bench and a solid recruiting class.

"I'm about as nervous as anyone starting the season," Smith said. "You never know what your team is going to be like. You're dealing with people, you're dealing with young kids."

Some coaches will be very familiar with their teams as the season begins. Stanford, Connecticut and Michigan State all return five starters from teams that had outstanding seasons last year.

Stanford went to the Final Four for the first time since 1942 and the Cardinal find themselves as the favorite in the Pac-10, a spot that has almost always been held by UCLA or Arizona in recent years.

Michigan State hasn't been to the Final Four since those Magic days and last season's run ended in

the Sweet 16 against North Carolina.

Connecticut has never reached the Final Four and last season's loss to North Carolina one game shy of the national semifinals was the third regional final in the '90s for the Huskies.

"I'd much rather be close like we have been than have lost in the first round each year," coach Jim Calhoun said. "We should be one of the favorites this season with everybody back. That's not a bad place to be."

The postseason is the aim of all 310 Division I teams, including the five new ones on the block — Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Denver, Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis, Portland State and Quinnipiac — but one of the regulars for March Madness, Louisville, won't be there because of NCAA probation.

There will be 45 coaches in new positions, none as inexperienced as Clyde Drexler who went right from ending his Hall of Fame-caliber NBA career to the sideline at Houston, where he was a member of Phi Slamma Jamma in the 1980s.

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Graf in triumphant return

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Juventus draw sends Fiorentina top

ROME (Reuters) - Fiorentina moved back to the top of Serie A yesterday but their moment of triumph was marred by UEFA's decision to kick them out of the UEFA Cup (see story below).

Within hours of a 4-1 victory over Venezia, which put the Fiorentina side one-point ahead of Juventus, UEFA decided to punish the club for a violent incident at last Tuesday's UEFA Cup match with Swiss club Grasshoppers.

Earlier fortune had smiled on Fiorentina when Roberto Carlos Sosa's injury-time equalizer for Udinese against Juventus had allowed the Fiorentina side to return to the top of Serie A seven days after losing the leadership.

Gabriel Batistuta, Sosa's Argentine compatriot, scored twice in the win over Venezia. With 18 points, Fiorentina are a point ahead of Juventus and four in front of AS Roma, held 1-1 at 10-man Bologna and AC Milan, who needed a controversial Demytro Albertini penalty to hold rivals Inter to a 2-2 draw at the San Siro.

NFL results

Baltimore 13, Oakland 10; St. Louis 20, Chicago 12; Dallas 16, New York Giants 6; Jacksonville 24, Cincinnati 11; Miami 27, Indianapolis 14; Minnesota 31, New Orleans 24; Atlanta 41, New England 10; Philadelphia 10, Detroit 9.

Arsenal move to second; United draw

LONDON (Reuters) - Defending champions Arsenal moved up to second place, their highest position of the season, after a superb sixth-minute goal from French teenager Nicolas Anelka gave them a 1-0 win over Everton in the English premier league yesterday.

Arsenal moved on to 23 points from 12 matches, two behind league leaders Aston Villa who have played one match fewer and who beat Tottenham Hotspur 3-2 on Saturday. Anelka lashed the ball home with a powerful left-foot shot from the left-hand side of the penalty area. He has scored in Arsenal's last five league matches.

Everton went close to an equalizer several times but the Gunners, who clinched the championship with a 4-0 win over Everton at Highbury last season, rarely looked in danger of dropping any points.

Manchester United, who were second at the start of play, slipped back to third after being held to a 0-0 draw by Newcastle United in an uninspiring match at Old Trafford.

Chelsea, unbeaten in the league since the opening day of the season, needed a 75th-minute header from Nigerian international Celestine Babayaro to save them from defeat in the London derby against West Ham which ended 1-1.

The Hammers took the lead through Neil Ruddock after four minutes. The point could prove costly for Chelsea, who lost Italian striker Pierluigi Casiraghi with what appeared to be a serious knee injury in the first half.

Play was suspended for five minutes while Casiraghi was treated before being carried off on a stretcher.

Yesterday's other match saw Leeds United beat Sheffield Wednesday 2-1 in a keenly fought Yorkshire derby which ended with Leeds moving up from 13th to sixth in the table after winning their first league game since David O'Leary replaced George Graham as coach a month ago.

Andy Booth put Wednesday ahead after three minutes - their first goal in 364 minutes of football - but Leeds came back with Duchman Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink scoring with an acrobatic volley after 39 minutes and 18-year-old Jonathan Woodgate scoring his first goal for the club with a 61st-minute header. Still, O'Leary was unhappy with his team's performance.

The schedule was split this week



Newcastle's Stephen Glass clashes with David Beckham in the goalless draw at Old Trafford yesterday.

(AP)

end as Arsenal, Manchester United, Leeds United and Chelsea were all involved in European action.

The six other matches on Saturday produced wins for Aston Villa, who stayed top of the table after their victory over Spurs; Coventry, who won 2-1 at Blackburn to climb out of the bottom three; Derby, who won 2-1 at Liverpool for their first success at Anfield since 1970; and Wimbledon,

whose 1-0 win at Nottingham Forest left Forest in 19th spot.

The only team below them are Southampton, who drew 3-3 with a Middlesbrough team that ended the match with nine men after having Robbie Mustoe and Phil Stamp sent off in the second half.

In Scotland, French international striker Stephane Guivarc'h put his Newcastle United nightmare firmly

behind him when he scored twice on his debut for Rangers in their 7-0 thrashing of St Johnstone.

Guivarc'h, who joined the Glasgow club last week in a £3.5 million move from Newcastle, struck twice after coming on as a second half substitute to extend Rangers' gap at the top of the Scottish premier league to four points.

Rangers moved on to 27 points,

four ahead of second-placed Kilmarnock with champions Celtic seven behind their Old Firm rivals.

The game at McDiarmid Park was billed as a dress rehearsal for the Scottish League Cup Final between these clubs in three weeks' time but St Johnstone, who were reduced to 10 men for almost an hour, will view that prospect as a nightmare after this crushing defeat.

Fiorentina to appeal against UEFA ban

ROME (Reuters) - Fiorentina said yesterday that they would appeal against European soccer body UEFA's decision to kick the Italian league leaders out of the UEFA Cup.

Managing director Luciano Luna said he was confident of reversing the UEFA Control and Disciplinary Body's punishment for a violent incident at last Tuesday's UEFA Cup match with Grasshoppers of Switzerland.

The second round second leg match, played at the neutral southern Italian venue of Salerno, was called off at half time after linesman Philippe Lament was injured by a firecracker thrown onto the pitch.

"Fiorentina were leading the match 2-1 and 4-1 on aggregate at the time."

"They (UEFA's Control and Disciplinary Body) have recognized that the (firecracker) was thrown at our players and not at the linesman or the Grasshopper players. This is very important. It gives us the chance to defend ourselves," said Luna.

In delivering its verdict, UEFA stated that it had stopped short of excluding Fiorentina from all-European competition for the next two years because the firecracker was aimed at the Florence side's players.

Police investigations have revealed that the firecracker was launched by a Salerno fan determined to exact revenge for clashes between rival Fiorentina and Salernitana fans during last month's Serie A match in Florence.

Windies' SA tour still in the balance

LONDON (Reuters) - The fate of West Indies' tour of South Africa due to start this week hung in the balance yesterday after negotiations between officials and players over pay and conditions failed to produce an agreement.

Players' representative Courtney Walsh told reporters after seven and a half hours of talks at a hotel near Heathrow Airport that the negotiations would resume this morning.

Walsh said he would be consulting other members of the team over proposals put by West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) officials, including president Farrouk Hussain.

South Africa cricket chief Ali Bacher, who flew to London from Johannesburg on Friday, said he remained optimistic a solution would be reached.

"If they catch a flight tomorrow night it won't be the end of

the world," Bacher said. Rousseau arrived in London on Sunday in an attempt to resolve the dispute which has threatened West Indies' first official Test tour of South Africa since apartheid ended.

Asked if he thought the crisis would be resolved, Rousseau said: "I would hope so." Rousseau sacked captain Brian Lara and vice-captain Carl Hooper last Wednesday after they refused to travel to Johannesburg from West Indies' previous assignment in the Wills International Cup in Dhaka.

Lara and Hooper instead flew to London, staying at a hotel near Heathrow, and the row escalated when other members of the team refused to leave the hotel.

They were later joined by the remainder of the tour party who had already flown from Dhaka to Johannesburg.

Rishon hands Mac. TA first loss

By ELI GRONER

Maccabi Rishon's home triumph over previously undefeated Maccabi Tel Aviv was the highlight of last night's National Basketball League action. Four of the other five teams which started the day in the bottom half of the standings pulled off victories as well.

Mac. Rishon 71, Mac. Tel Aviv 70.

What a way to end a slump. In his first league game as Rishon's coach, Moshe Weinkrantz engineered his club to a fantastic upset victory over the perennial league champions.

The win couldn't have come at a better time for Rishon, which snapped a four-game losing streak and hadn't won since September.

Doron Jamchy converted a wide open layup with ten seconds remaining right after an Oded Katash field goal just seconds earlier, for the last of seven lead changes in the final two minutes. Katash missed two jump shots - including one from very close range - in the final seconds, enabling Rishon to secure the victory.

Dwayne Washington led Rishon with 24 points along with solid leadership at the point guard position. Thomas Paccas added 13 while Joe Dawson chipped in 11.

Victor Alexander tallied 20 points in the loss.

Hap. Jerusalem 70 Hap. Holon 63. Radisav Curcic scored 16 of his 17 points in the second half as Jerusalem outlasted the upstart Holon club at Malha.

The visitors were extremely competitive for 34 minutes before two consecutive Curcic field goals gave Jerusalem a 59-55 lead with five minutes remaining. After the second score, Holon Coach Eli Kaneti was levied with a technical foul for arguing with one of the referees. Curcic buried both free throws before adding another one with the bonus possession, as the hosts stretched the lead to a comfortable 62-55.

Four Papi Turgeon free throws in the final minute secured the win.

Turgeon shot a perfect 4-for-4 from three-point range and led Jerusalem with 18 points. H. Waldman added 3-for-5 from three on route to a 14-point performance. Greg Sutton led all scorers with 27 points. Ryan Leckser chipped in 13. Galil Eylon 11, Ramat Gan 99.

Galil moved into fourth place with the impressive road victory. The American tandem of Derrick Alston (30 points) and Jaime Arnold (25) paced the visitors.

James Gully (22 points) and Uri Cohen-Mintz (20) distinguished themselves in defeat.

Hap. Tel Aviv 85, Herzliya 73. In his first game as coach, Roni Bosani helped the Tel Avivians pick up their first win in the first division in over a year-and-a-half.

Hap. Haifa 88, Hap. Eilat 68. Over 1,700 fans came out to see Haifa - coming off an x-game losing streak, reel off the surprisingly easy victory.

Givat Shmuel 93, Ra'anana 76. Despite Dennis Hopson's absence, the hosts were able to stave off the struggling Ra'anana.

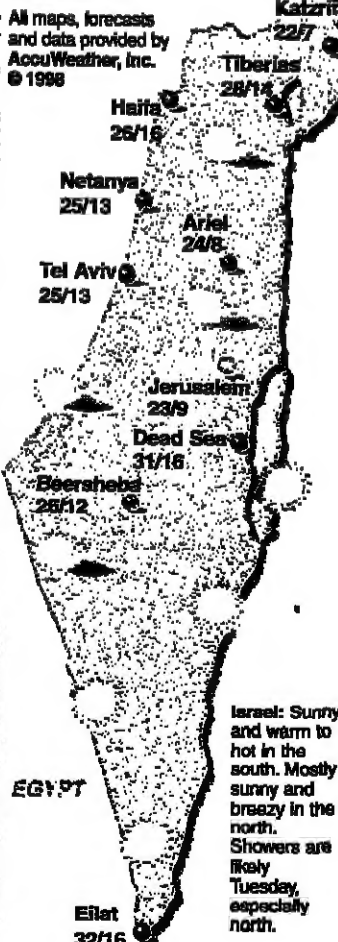
| National Basketball League | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|-----|
| | W | L | Pts |
| Hapoel Jerusalem | 6 | 0 | 12 |
| Hapoel Eilat | 5 | 2 | 12 |
| Maccabi Tel Aviv | 5 | 1 | 11 |
| Galil Eylon | 4 | 2 | 10 |
| Beit Hertzliya | 3 | 4 | 10 |
| Maccabi Ra'anana | 3 | 4 | 10 |
| Maccabi Haifa | 3 | 4 | 10 |
| Maccabi Kishon | 3 | 4 | 10 |
| Hapoel Eilat | 3 | 4 | 10 |
| Beit Hertzliya | 2 | 5 | 9 |
| Hapoel Tel Aviv | 1 | 5 | 7 |

AIR CANADA

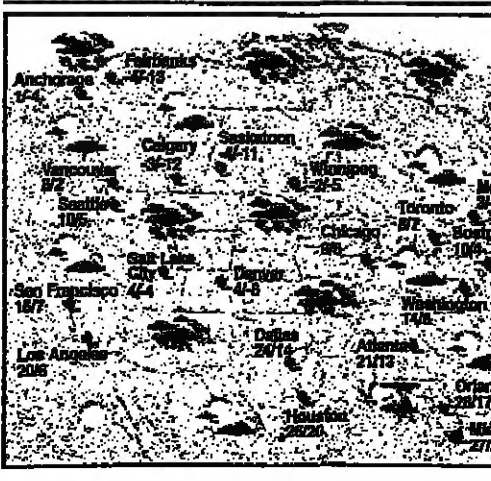
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THE WEATHER

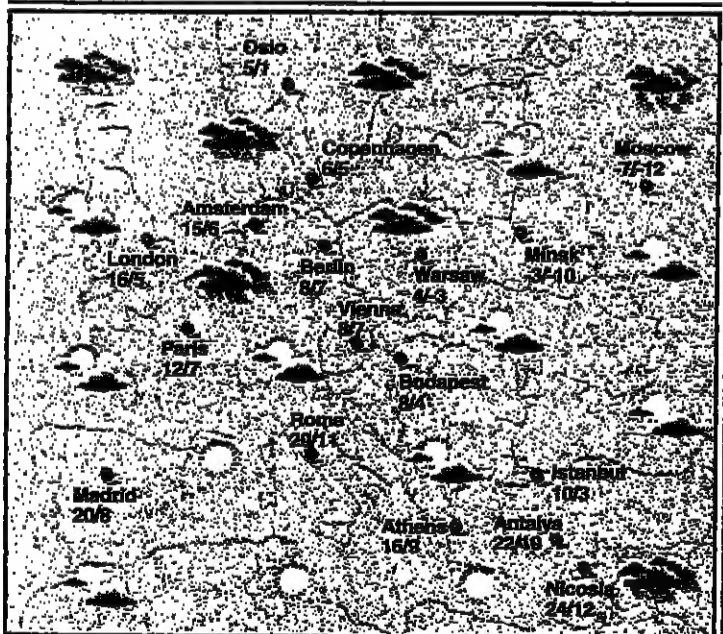
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NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



ISRAEL CITIES

| City | Today High/Low | Monday High/Low | Tuesday High/Low | Wednesday High/Low | Thursday High/Low |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Haifa | 24/15 | 24/15 | 24/15 | 24/15 | 24/15 |
| Beit Sheva | 29/18 | 29/18 | 29/18 | 29/18 | 29/18 |
| Jerusalem | 22/12 | 22/12 | 22/12 | 22/12 | 22/12 |
| Tel Aviv | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 |
| Beer Sheva | 28/18 | 28/18 | 28/18 | 28/18 | 28/18 |
| Eilat | 32/20 | 32/20 | 32/20 | 32/20 | 32/20 |
| Netanya | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 |
| Haifa | 24/15 | 24/15 | 24/15 | 24/15 | 24/15 |
| Beit Sheva | 29/18 | 29/18 | 29/18 | 29/18 | 29/18 |
| Jerusalem | 22/12 | 22/12 | 22/12 | 22/12 | 22/12 |
| Tel Aviv | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 | 25/13 |
| Beer Sheva | 28/18 | 28/18 | 28/18 | 28/18 | 28/18 |
| Eilat | 32/20 | 32/20 | 32/20 | 32/20 | 32/20 |

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

| City | Today High/Low | Monday High/Low | Tuesday High/Low | Wednesday High/Low | Thursday High/Low |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Amman | 15/8 | 15/8 | 15/8 | 15/8 | 15/8 |
| Baghdad | 14/5 | 14/5 | 14/5 | 14/5 | 14/5 |
| Berlin | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 |
| Buenos Aires | 21/10 | 21/10 | 21/10 | 21/10 | 21/10 |
| Calcutta | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 |
| Chicago | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 |
| Frankfurt | 7/4 | 7/4 | 7/4 | 7/4 | 7/4 |
| Hong Kong | 28/19 | 28/19 | 28/19 | 28/19 | 28/19 |
| Johannesburg | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 |
| London | 15/8 | 15/8 | 15/8 | 15/8 | 15/8 |
| Los Angeles | 23/10 | 23/10 | 23/10 | 23/10 | 23/10 |
| Moscow | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 |
| Mumbai | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 |
| Montreal | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 |
| Moscow | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 |
| New York | 12/3 | 12/3 | 12/3 | 12/3 | 12/3 |
| Paris | 12/3 | 12/3 | 12/3 | 12/3 | 12/3 |
| Prague | 7/4 | 7/4 | 7/4 | 7/4 | 7/4 |
| Rio de Janeiro | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 | 27/18 |
| Rome | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 | 20/8 |
| Sydney | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 |
| Tokyo | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 | 22/11 |
| Toronto | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 |
| Vienna | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 | 9/4 |
| Warsaw | 10/5 | 10/5 | 10/5 | 10/5 | 10/5 |
| Washington | 14/5 | 14/5 | 14/5 | 14/5 | 14/5 |
| Zurich | 11/2 | 11/2 | 11/2 | 11/2 | 11/2 |

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